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NOTICE TO READERS: * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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CSFR's Pirek Addresses UN Arms Policy Committee

LD1810122790 Prague CTK in English 0929 GMT 18 Oct 90

[By CTK correspondent]

[Text] New York Oct 18 (CTK)—Efforts to set up a new international order based on transferring the functions of military blocs to the all-European structures are in the forefront of Czechoslovakia's foreign policy orientation, Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Zdenko Pirek has said here.

In his address in the Political and Security Committee at the 45th General Assembly session yesterday, Pirek stated that the effects of the cold war can be removed only through collective efforts and within a community of democratic states, which will guarantee non-militaristic approaches to the protection of peace.

Pirek said Czechoslovakia attaches primary importance to conventional disarmament and is actively working to achieve progress in this sphere. He recalled Czechoslovakia's contribution to the elaboration of principles of arms control and disarmament, the halt to Czechoslovak arms supplies to areas of tension, unilateral cuts in armed forces and armament, publication of data about military spendings and termination of arms production in a number of enterprises.

As regards global questions, Czechoslovakia considers it urgent to complete the treaty on banning and eliminating chemical weapons, to accelerate nuclear disarmament and draft a general nuclear weapons' test ban treaty, Pirek said.

CSFR Delegation Head on CFE Stumbling Blocks

AU1610160290 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 15 Oct 90 p 4

[Interview with Dr. Ladislav Balcar, head of the CSFR delegation at the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) talks, by Josef Vesely in Vienna on 12 October: "Work Is Almost Complete at No. 34 Blaasstrasse"—first paragraph is HOSPODARSKE NOVINY introduction]

[Text] Last Friday [12 October] just before 1500, when we said good-bye to Dr. Ladislav Balcar at the gates of the villa on Blaasstrasse, a quiet street in Vienna's 19th district, the working week was still far from over for the head of the CSFR delegation at the Vienna talks on conventional armed forces. In fact, he was rushing off to another round of the talks on whose final outcome—to a certain extent—the success of the summit planned for Paris in November involving European countries, the United States, and Canada is dependent. Inside the Czechoslovak villa in Vienna we had previously been joking that following the unification of Germany and the departure of the GDR from the Warsaw Pact, the negotiations involving the 23 states of both alliances had now turned into discussions involving just 22 countries and so the negotiators can now—following the reduction in the number of tables—sit closer to each other. However, we then began gathering much more serious information for our readers.

[Vesely] What is the current situation in your negotiations and which issues still remain open prior to Paris?

[Balcar] Before a treaty on conventional armed forces can be signed at the highest level, an agreement still has to be reached determining the overall number of air forces and artillery. As far as air forces are concerned, the main issue involves the number of assault helicopters. The so-called sufficiency level per country—that is, what maximum percentage share of the conventional forces in Europe each country may have at its disposal—must also be definitively determined. There has been a great deal of discussion on this issue because, until recently, we held divergent views on whether this should involve 30 percent of the total armed forces (this was the NATO states' position) or "not less than 40 percent" (USSR). Even prior to the meeting between James Baker and Eduard Shevardnadze in New York, it was obvious that the 40-percent demand was unrealistic, although—as far as air forces are concerned—this matter has to be considered according to the size of the countries and other geographical criteria. It is something completely different to guarantee air cover for territory in Belgium and for territory in the USSR. The CSFR and Hungary have submitted their own proposal on the sufficiency level; this level should amount to one-third of the ceiling. We are able to say that our point of view was realistic and was confirmed by the outcome of the U.S.-USSR talks in New York. Both countries, which are practically involved in these ceilings, agreed on this quota for tanks and armored combat vehicles. The quota for helicopters should come to 37.5 percent and to 34.3 percent for artillery.

[Vesely] The de facto dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, which is taking place more rapidly than could possibly have been envisaged when the collective ceilings were originally determined, must also certainly play a role here. Could you give us more details on how this has been reflected, or is being reflected, in the negotiations?

[Balcar] After an agreement is reached, the collective level will really have to be divided into a national level on account of the fundamentally altered situation within the Warsaw Pact. The above-mentioned New York meeting helped to resolve this issue as far as helicopters, armored combat vehicles, and air forces are concerned; however, problems have arisen with the distribution of tanks and artillery. For example, the Warsaw Pact has been left with 1,060 tanks following the exclusion of the GDR, however, Bulgaria is demanding more than 1,070 tanks. The same applies to Poland and Hungary. Czechoslovakia is insisting upon the originally agreed quotas. However, the total is such that it exceeds the collective ceiling agreed upon. It is a fact that the original distribution did not reckon with the dissolution of the Warsaw

Pact. This pact's individual member states are also no longer reckoning with a common defense shield and have changed their ideas about the need for conventional means for the individual defense of their countries.

[Vesely] Could this situation make the signing of a pan-European treaty at the Paris summit impossible?

[Balcar] Theoretically, yes. Although very few people would like to take on such political responsibility.

[Vesely] If we look at the fate of Czechoslovak initiatives in this area—I have in mind the speech delivered by President Vaclav Havel to the Council of Europe parliamentary assembly in Strasbourg where he outlined our pragmatic approach toward Warsaw Pact and NATO disarmament negotiations—we have the feeling that these approaches are now somehow applicable to the Vienna negotiations.

[Balcar] The influence of those factors which the CSFR president spoke about in Strasbourg is still evident. We feel this influence as participants in these important talks. Indeed, we have a mandate to work on a bloc basis whether we want it or not. We have to conduct the negotiations in such a way to make sure that the NATO countries have a partner. From this point of view, we have all only managed to proceed within the framework of the mandate by making a great effort. At the same time, each negotiator feels that this approach is an anachronism. The next phase after Paris will—from this point of view—obviously, be more difficult because Hungary will, with all probability, leave the Warsaw Pact. However, it may be expected that we will have to proceed further as a group of countries.

[Vesely] How long do you think we will have to continue with this contradictory method of negotiating?

[Balcar] Obviously, until the highest level pan-European conference planned for Helsinki in 1992; a second agreement on conventional armed forces in Europe should be signed there. The Paris summit should give us a mandate for negotiating this agreement. It should concern the number of troops and all the other unresolved issues which could not be included in the first treaty for chronological reasons.

[Vesely] And what then?

[Balcar] We envisage that after the Helsinki meeting in 1992, disarmament talks should take place on a non-bloc basis. Perhaps with the participation of the original 35 states (besides the United States and Canada, the 33 European states; however, minus the GDR—as opposed to 1975—but, possibly, plus Albania).

[Vesely] Of course, this means that for your negotiations as well as for the talks on measures to increase trust and security in Europe it will be necessary to draft a new mandate?

[Balcar] All the CSCE participatory states—until recently, with the exception of the United States—support such a point of view. Understandably, this stance made Washington frown. Therefore, all of us here gratefully accepted the statement made by Secretary of State James Baker in connection with the talks involving the U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers in New York. He said that the United States is now willing to participate in such talks.

[Vesely] In this context, how do you and your partners in Vienna evaluate the Czechoslovak proposals oriented toward abolishing the Warsaw Pact military organization?

[Balcar] As confirmation of the CSFR's desire to hold serious negotiations about this future mandate in harmony with both our NATO partners and our current partners in the Warsaw Pact. Our country's proposals fully fit into this context.

First Session of Helsinki Citizens Assembly Opens

LD1910131190 Prague CTK in English 0948 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 19 (CTK)—The first session of the Helsinki Citizens Assembly opened here today under the central motto "Civil society as a vehicle for the democratic integration of Europe."

In the course of three days some 700 representatives of all the countries, signatories to the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Final Act in 1975, will exchange views and experiences under the new conditions of development on the European continent caused mainly by the recent changes in its eastern part. The fact that the meeting is taking place in the Czechoslovak capital is a symbolic remembrance of the "Prague Appeal" of March 1985. At that time Czechoslovak dissidents and democratic opposition representatives, supporting the ideas of the Charter 77 civic initiative, addressed the European public with a project of radicalization of the "Helsinki process" aimed at a real unification of Europe.

Jaroslav Sabata, a signatory of this appeal, has told CTK that "five years ago the Prague Appeal was considered more or less utopian and idealistic. It is our satisfaction that in the present conditions it is becoming a basis for a dialogue which we want to further deepen and develop as the division of Europe into two hostile camps is practically no longer in force. The Helsinki Citizens Assembly should become a permanent base enabling people, who are interested in the unification of Europe but do not know about one another, to meet on a non-governmental level," Sabata said. It should prevent experiences of various groups and movements from being lost and should make it possible to seize them, i.e. it should develop the Helsinki process in an upward direction, the political prisoner of the previous communist regime added.

The meeting in Prague is at the same time a constituent session of the Helsinki Citizens Assembly as a new democratic non-governmental institution open to the public. The final plenary session on Sunday is to discuss a proposal that Prague become a permanent seat of the assembly's secretariat and that plenary sessions of the Helsinki Citizens Assembly be held in the Czechoslovak capital each year.

Tokyo To Ease Cocom Restrictions on East Europe

AU1610143390 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 15 Oct 90 p 6

[MTI report: "Tokyo To Ease Cocom (Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls) Restrictions in Two Stages"]

[Text] Japan is to ease the export restrictions to the former "communist" countries in Eastern Europe within three weeks. According to a statement made by a Japanese Government official, the Japanese leadership is to carry out this action, which was decided upon in June 1990, in two stages.

According to the decision, Japan will lift the ban on the export of 41 high-technology products to the Eastern European countries. In June, Cocom decided to lift the ban on the export of 41 out of 116 products which appear on 38 different lists. From now on, Japan will be able to sell fast computers with a speed of 275 megabits per second, computers with a precision of four microns, six-micron turning mills, universal milling machines, and 256-kilobyte computer memory units. The 32-byte personal computers will no longer appear on the list of banned exports to Eastern Europe. Among telecommunication installations, high-capacity 45 megabit per second and 156 megabit per second telecommunications installations will also become exportable to the aforementioned countries.

Iliescu Visits Bucharest International Fair

AU1710212390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1926 GMT 17 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 17/10/1990—President Ion Iliescu of Romania visited the Bucharest International Fair [TIB '90] on Wednesday.

The visit started in the central pavilion with products from all the areas of the Romanian industry on display.

The premiere of the current TIB edition are the private companies, of which some [are] foreign-trade ones. Mr. Ion Iliescu inquired into the possibilities TIB offered them to contact foreign companies and conclude contracts with them.

The Romanian president also visited the pavilions of all the participating countries. He conversed with the heads of the diplomatic missions of the respective countries, with representatives of the participating firms and with businessmen.

Throughout the visit a greater interest in this year's edition could be noted, the major argument being the large number of companies with products rather than posters on display.

"The new character of this autumn's fair in Bucharest is impressive," Mr. Ion Iliescu said after the visit. "As to previous editions, which were dominated by protocol rigidity, the current edition is not only an exhibition but a live institution in which I was pleased to note that numerous contacts are established between Romanian and foreign companies. Therefore, it is an opportunity not only to put products on display but also to talk and conduct negotiations on mutually advantageous cooperation ventures," he also said.

Alia Sends Message to Hungary on National Day

AU2210195490 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Comrade Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, has sent the following greetings telegram to Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary. On the occasion of the Republic of Hungary's national day, I send you sincere greetings and best wishes for the happiness of the Hungarian people and the progress of the country, in the name of the Albanian people, the Presidium of the People's Assembly, and on my own behalf.

More on SFRY Economic Delegation Visit

Gjyzari Receives Delegation

AU1910173090 Tirana ATA in English 0800 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 18 (ATA)—The minister, secretary general of the Council of Ministers of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, Niko Gjyzari, received at the seat of the Council of Ministers the member of the Executive Council of the SFR [Socialist Federal Republic] of Yugoslavia, Nikola Gasovski, who heads the delegation of the SFR of Yugoslavia at the second session of the Joint Albanian-Yugoslav Committee for Economic and Technical- Scientific Cooperation.

At the reception they exchanged views on the cooperation between the two countries in the economic field and in other fields of mutual interest and laid stress on the need to further develop the bilateral relations between Albania and Yugoslavia and on their importance in the framework of the Balkan cooperation.

The reception was attended also by the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SFR of Yugoslavia to the PSR of Albania, Novak Pribicevic.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

AU1910173290 Tirana ATA in English 0803 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 18 (ATA)—The protocol of the second session of the joint Albanian-Yugoslav Committee on Economic and Technical-Scientific Cooperation and the payments agreement between the government of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania and the government of the SFR [Socialist Federal Republic] of Yugoslavia was signed in Tirana on October 18. For the Albanian side these documents were signed by the minister under the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Committee for Economic Cooperation With Foreign Countries of the PSR of Albania, Farudin Hoxha, whereas for the Yugoslav side by member of the Executive Council of the SFR of Yugoslavia, Nikola Gasovski.

The protocol of the second session of the joint committee envisages cooperation between the two countries in the field of mineral extraction and processing, energetics, trade, transport, etc., whereas the payments agreement defines the way of regulating the payments between the countries.

The signing ceremony was attended by the minister of foreign trade of the PSR of Albania, Shane Korbeci; the secretary general of the Ministry of Finances, Qemal Disha; the secretary general of the Ministry of Transport, Ferdinand Tako; head of department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Gudar Toto, as well as the members of both delegations.

During his stay in our country, the member of the Executive Council of the SFR of Yugoslavia and head of the Yugoslav side at the joint Albanian-Yugoslav Committee on Economic and Technical-Scientific Cooperation, Nikola Gasovski, was received by the minister of foreign trade, Shane Korbeci.

The Yugoslav government delegation headed by the member of the Executive Council of the SFR of Yugoslavia and head of the Yugoslav side at the joint Albanian-Yugoslav Committee on Economic and Technical-Scientific Cooperation, Nikola Gasovski, which took part in the proceedings of the second session of this committee, left our country on October 18. Present to see off the delegation were the minister under the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Committee for Economic Cooperation With Foreign Countries of the PSR of Albania, Farudin Hoxha. Present was also the ambassador of Yugoslavia in Tirana, Novak Pribicevic.

During its stay, the Yugoslav delegation paid visits to the districts of Tirana, Berat, Kruje, and Durres.

Agreement Signed With Macedonian Writers

AU2210195890 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Within the framework of Balkan cooperation, an agreement of cooperation between the Albanian Artists and Writers League and the Macedonian Writers Association was signed in Tirana today. It was signed for the Albanian side by Dritero Agolli, chairman of the Writers and Artists League, and for the Macedonian side by Todor Calovski [name as heard], chairman of the Macedonian Writers Association.

The agreement provides for meetings between the writers of the two countries, cooperation in literary publications, participation in activities in which the writers associations will exchange experience, etc. This agreement will encourage greater awareness of the literatures of both countries, and will serve to strengthen friendship between their peoples.

More on Swedish Foreign Affairs Delegation Visit

Malile Receives Delegation

AU1810153690 Tirana ATA in English 0826 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 17 (ATA)—The foreign minister of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, Reis Malile, received the delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, headed by the under-secretary of state for foreign affairs, Torsten Orn, on October 17 before noon.

During the reception, which was conducted in a friendly atmosphere, Reis Malile spoke of the sentiments of friendship and sympathy the Albanian people cherish for the Swedish people and the other Nordic peoples. They also discussed on the numerous possibilities existing for the further promotion of relations between Albania and Sweden, both in the political field and the economic-trade, cultural, scientific ones, etc.

Likewise, opinions were exchanged on questions of the current international situation, on the Balkan process, in the framework of which the foreign ministers' meeting of the Balkan states will hold its proceedings in Tirana, on the process of European security and cooperation, etc.

Attending the reception were also the interim charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Sweden to the PSR of Albania, Orjan Landelius.

On October 17 too, the delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, headed by the under-secretary of state for foreign affairs, Torsten Orn, left our country.

It was seen off by the deputy minister of foreign affairs of the PSR of Albania, Sokrat Plaka, and the functionaries of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the stay in our country the delegation paid visits to sociocultural centres in the districts of Tirana, Lezhe, and Shkoder.

Korbeci Heads Trade Delegation to Cuba

AU2110182990 Tirana ATA in English 0915 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 20 (ATA)—A government trade delegation of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania led by the minister of foreign trade, Shane Korbeci, left for the Republic of Cuba on October 19.

Present to see the delegation off at the airport were the minister of home trade, Pajtim Ajazi, and other comrades. Present were also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba to the PSR of Albania, Julio Cancio.

Foreign Minister on Tirana Balkan Meeting

AU2110185090 Tirana ATA in English 1050 GMT 21 Oct 90

["The Process of Balkan Cooperation on the Road of Further Development and Consolidation"—ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, October 21 (ATA)—Under the above title the newspaper "ZERI I POPULLIT" carries a writing by Reis Malile, minister of foreign affairs of the PSRA [People's Socialist Republic of Albania], which says:

Soon the meeting of the ministers of foreign affairs of the Balkan states will be held in our capital. It will focus its attention on the hitherto development of the multilateral cooperation and will define the paths of its further consolidation. The time that has passed by since the first meeting, held in Belgrade in 1988, at this level, is not long, however, we can not but point out the fact that during these two years a number of important meetings of various branches have taken place, aiming at the exchange of opinions on the possibilities of cooperation and the ways to its materialisation.

The numerous inter-Balkan activities at different levels during the recent period have discovered important domain of cooperation of political, economic, technical-scientific, cultural and humanitarian character. The proposals that have been forwarded in these activities have served to outline a vast program which makes cooperation not only diversified, but also fruitful based on contemporary forms and ways. This includes the sphere of economic-trade exchanges, energy, transport, agriculture, ecology, tourism, culture and health service. The proposals for the creation of special Balkan organisms in the economic and technical-scientific field, the closer link of bilateral cooperation with the multilateral one to the governmental and non-governmental level, etc., are requirements of the time, which give the regional cooperation concrete content.

The idea of Balkan cooperation is already hailed by the peoples of the countries of our region. It has been backed up with optimism by the vast public opinion, because it has aroused hopes for an improvement and general soundness of the political atmosphere in the peninsula both on the bilateral plane and the multilateral one. The Balkan political dialogue, that initiated with the first meeting of the foreign ministers, assumed a broader scope and a constructive character. The existence of the favourable factors and of the common interests, the existence of ancient ties, that go down to history, assist the peoples of the Balkans to find new ways and possibilities of communication and cooperation.

Amongst the favourable regional factors, assisting this flow it is worth mentioning the objective predisposition of the Balkan peoples to live in friendship, because history itself has dictated similar destinies and has taught them to share the good and bad. Nowadays more positive conditions have been created to witness the fulfilment of the aspirations of the peoples of this region, the consolidation of peace and security, to live in harmony by one another and in close cooperation in spheres of mutual benefit.

Major possibilities exist, however, that through contacts at various fields and levels, to overcome difficulties, to lift hindrances, to leave aside prejudices inherited by from the past and to open up broader ways to confidence, so much indispensable, especially among neighbours. It is high time that the consequences left over by the period of cold war, which unfortunately savagely dashed on the Balkans, be replaced by a period of good will and realism, whereas disagreements be solved through talks, tolerance and understanding.

The new conditions created in Europe and in the world which in a way or another have been reflected in the Balkan region too, constitute an actual favourable foreign factor, which merges in one the process of European cooperation and security with those of the Balkan region. The new political concepts, including that of security as a general category and for all, outside the spirit of blocs and confrontation, the rapid developments in the context of the CSCE, which are going towards their institutionalisation, the integrating European processes and the tendencies for the democratisation of the international relations, put forth fresh tasks for the Balkans too, as an integral part of Europe.

Under this light the current Tirana meeting offers a well accolted [welcomed] and favourable occasion to exchange opinions in the spirit of the marked achievements of the initiated dialogue and sincere understanding and confidence.

The changes that are occurring on the continent enhance the responsibility of the Balkan countries to secure peace in the region, because its stability affects the situation in Europe, the Mediterranean and beyond. Consolidation of security in the Balkans is first of all problem of its states. It is equally in their hands to preserve it and open up the way of progress and economic development to overcome the relative backwardness with the other parts of Europe. When Western Europe and the Eastern one are leaving aside the old concepts of security, our region too should make its contribution so as to become part of the European political structures, that are being crystalised. It is high time that our cooperation be enhanced to that degree that the Balkans forward concerted constructive initiatives in the European forums or other international organisms.

For Albania the promotion of the relations of good neighbourliness constitutes one of the priorities of its foreign policy. We wish and are striving so that the relations of friendly cooperation with the neighbouring states be unstoppably extended and consolidated, so that they do not oscillate according to the political circumstances, but be stable to the mutual benefit, to serve independence and progress of each, as well as to the general security. At present, the harmonisation of the separate interests of a country with the concerted ones is made possible as never before, therefore our country together with the other countries of the region is striving to forge ahead cooperation and at the same time contributes to the continuous improvement of the political atmosphere and stability in the region. Albania will manifest this will and desire also in the Balkan meeting of Tirana.

We are confident and convinced that the foreign ministers' meeting of the Balkan states to be held in Tirana on October 24-25, thanks to joint efforts and political will successfully accomplish its mission, justifying the hopes of the Balkan peoples, who more than ever aspire to peace, friendship and progress.

Decree Summons People's Assembly To Meet 12 Nov

AU1910203990 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Decree summoning the People's Assembly to the eighth session of the 11th legislature;

On the basis of Article 77 of the Constitution, the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania decrees the summons of the People's Assembly to the eighth session of the 11th legislature at 1700 on Monday, 12 November 1990.

This decree comes into effect immediately.
Tirana, 19 October 1990.
Number of decree: 7,417.

For the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania: Ramiz Alia, president; Sihat Tozaj, secretary.

Law on Defense Lawyers Comes Into Effect 1 Nov

AU1910173490 Tirana ATA in English 1027 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 19 (ATA)—The law "On Advocacy in the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania" will enter into force on November 1, 1990. In an interview to the newspaper "ZERI I POPULLIT" concerning the preparatory work for the normal functioning of the colleges of advocates, Andon Pano, director of advocacy at the Ministry of Justice, stresses among others:

The Ministry of Justice has taken some organisational measures, whose application creates enacting the law. After selecting the cadres, with the approval of the minister of justice, the colleges of advocacy and their branches were formed. Hence, there will be created colleges stationed in Kukes, Shkoder, Diber, Tirana, Durres, Fier, Berat, Vlore, Gjirokaster, Elbasan and Korce (where the branches of the advocacy colleges will operate in the nearby districts.)

Likewise, the regulation "On Advocacy in the PSRA" as well as those on tariffs will be approved. The regulation "On the Tariffs for Services of the Colleges of Advocates" which together arrange the activity of the advocacy, will be approved.

According to the law, advocacy is created to render juridical assistance to the Albanian citizens and foreigners as well as to institutions, enterprises, agricultural cooperatives, social organisations and foreign juridical persons. The juridical assistance offered by advocacy will contribute to the defence of legitimate rights and interests of the citizens.

Democratisation in this field is evident. The beginning of defence by the advocate since in inquest further democratises the penal procedure, not to mention here the other rights the advocate enjoys during the inquiry of the matters and their judgement.

Bashkurti Statement on Students' Rights, Duties

AU2210211390 Tirana ZERI I RINISE in Albanian 17 Oct 90 pp 1-2

["Report of Comrade Lisen Bashkurti," first secretary of the Albanian Union of Working Youth Central Committee, to the National Aktiv of University Youth in Tirana on 13 October]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Defects in the national awareness of some of our students surface most clearly when they are faced with their allocation to jobs. Equivocations and evasions, 1,001 empty excuses, appraisals of members of the family and even self-appraisals, the concoction of de jure marriages even before de facto engagements, wheeling and dealing, and big business-style partnerships in the youth organization to secure votes are some of the symptoms which, while not predominant in students' discussions of job allocation, nevertheless reflect a lack of awareness of an intellectual student's national mission.

Families, especially intellectual families in the cities of Tirana, Durres, Korce, Shkoder, etc., sometimes not excepting the families of managers and cadres at various levels, have recently had a markedly harmful influence in this area. The letters to the Youth Central Committee and the shrill telephone calls are mainly from families of this kind. We are sometimes even surprised to find that students' worthy parents undergo metamorphoses when faced with their children's job allocation: Intellectuals become transformed into mediocrities who pay no heed to society's laws, standards, and regulations; civilized people reveal themselves to be ignorant, imagining that Albania begins and ends in the narrow neighborhoods of their towns; veterans list their merits as if they were the heroic deeds of their sons; cadres appeal to principle and lofty ethical standards, but not where their own offspring are concerned. [passage omitted]

The youth organization also has its own responsibilities in the formation of students' ideological convictions. By virtue of the organization's nature, it bears special responsibility for explaining the issues of the day, current tendencies, and situations of various kinds. What are our failings in this respect? Communication with young people suffers from two negative phenomena which are extreme opposites but which add grist to the same mill. On one hand, there is a nihilistic attitude toward our achievements of many years and toward the steps we are taking now. The carriers of this phenomenon, to be encountered among students as well as among some teachers, hide behind phrases of moderation and are surrounded by the fashionable halo of superdemocrats. They flourish either because they repeat by heart malevolent foreign propaganda, or because we have been incapable of argument. In either case, carriers of both kinds must be brought up short with the help of ideological weapons. This cannot be done if we go in front of young people with our hands in our pockets, as normally happens; it requires a mind full of arguments, culture, and tolerance.

The second phenomenon is a lack of realism. Sometimes arising out of a low cultural level, an absence of conscious civil and communist courage, or sometimes out of a mere spirit of contrariness when faced with the phenomenon of nihilism, the phenomenon of a lack of realism is found among those who strive to justify everything at all costs, and to defend the rightness of everything that we used to do, thus refusing to admit any shortcomings in our 45-year period. Such an error in the work of communication and explanation with students means that we fall, whether voluntarily or not, into sophism and demagogy. [passage omitted]

The further democratization of the country's life has naturally involved Albania in current world developments. This involvement requires its own preparation, and requires, above all else, that our young people be capable of measuring up to the world. This idea of young people measuring up to the world, put forward by Comrade Ramiz Alia one year ago, must be correctly understood by the entire younger generation, especially students. We say correctly understood, because sometimes this is not quite the case. Measuring up to the world does not mean sitting for hours on end in front of foreign television programs, swallowing the cliches of snobbery, storing in your desk drawer dreams which are far from our reality and possibilities, or weeping and wailing about taking the entire globe in your hands, when these hands have not produced a single crumb. For us, the Albanian people, measuring up to the world means preserving with our lives our freedom, independence, sovereignty, and distinctive socialist road.

It means adopting and supporting the democratic and progressive demands of today's world. It means keeping pure our individual characters and our national character as a whole. It means paying the tax due to the past and scaling the heights of modern world civilization. Mastering foreign languages as a connecting bridge with the world, thoroughly assimilating science, and extending theoretical horizons and their practical applications are necessary preconditions for our young people to measure up to the world. This legitimate aspiration of our young people cannot be achieved with idle talk, leisurely methods, and indolence, but requires labor and methods full of energy and dynamism. Without in the least disparaging the importance and necessity of the foreign factor in Albania's modernization and progress, it must be as clear as day to us that our own material and human resources remain the foundation of all foundations. Nothing can be done in Albania without them, and without them foreign factors remain ineffective. The Albanians have made and will make Albania. This is the lesson taught to us by both history and modern times. Every young person, and especially every student, must lie down at night and rise in the morning with this lesson in mind. In this way, the idea of measuring up to the world becomes understood as a natural process of give and take between Albania and the world. [passage omitted]

The cultivation of a healthy democratic culture constitutes a primary duty for people's training in the current processes of democratization. We are aware that, despite the democratic nature of our society, there are plenty limitations in the democratic upbringing of our people. These limitations stem from elements in our feudal-bourgeois inheritance, the peasant origin of the majority of the population and the psychology which follows from this, the need for the young Albanian state to consolidate itself with extremely rigorous administrative and legislative structures, certain shortcomings dictated by economic shortages, defects in the cultural level and spiritual emancipation of some of our people, the cold war waged for whole decades against Albania, and the historical and present-day circumstances of our region.

These limiting circumstances, as one can imagine, have not failed to leave traces in the awareness of the younger generation also, including students. Where are these vestiges especially present? First, there is an imbalance between rights and duties. In meetings and conversations with students and at meetings of basic organizations and conferences of this category of young people, one notices a tendency to merely make demands of the state and party and to leave duties in the shade. This mistaken spirit, sometimes encouraged by immature and malevolent elements, considers the state and party as bodies with limitless possibilities, from whom young people can and should take what they want, in the way they want, and when. This is not the case. The state and party are made up of our people, and their possibilities are bound up with our reality, and are identifiable and tangible to us all. As the people say, if you want to take flour from the mill, you must first spread the grain on the grindstone. Moreover, the tendency to only make demands involves, among some students, an element of intellectual bigheadedness which ignores the general level of society. Students, despite the continual care shown for them, do not live on Robinson Crusoe's island, but in our reality, with all its opportunities and shortcomings. Moreover, I would say that the tendency to make demands is unfortunately most strongly present among the lazy and parasitic, who have come to college in order to live rather than to prepare for life. We must curb the tendency to make demands, opening the eyes of our students to the definite opportunities available to us, involving them more intimately in the country's problems and concerns, and demanding their serious commitment and mobilization, especially in meeting their duties to themselves, their parents, the people, and the party.

Second, the spirit of debate has recently been greatly invigorated. This is a very good thing. There are, however, more than a few cases of students and here and there teachers too turning debate into a fashion. In fact, fashionable debate is muddle, mess, and confusion. Debate is not an endless boulevard. When its purposes are borne in mind, a valuable debate is one which does not aim at deviation from the truth and mental confusion, but elucidation of the truth; it does not seek to make people waver, but to place them in clear and correct positions. We must bear in mind these needs if we do not wish debate and free discussion to end up fruitlessly in an impenetrable thicket.

Further on Semerdzhiev Mission to Bagdhad

AU2210203890 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Vice President Atanas Semerdzhiev arrived in Iraq for negotiations with the Iraqi authorities on the return of the 694 Bulgarian citizens who remained in Iraq following the invasion of Kuwait. The vice president is expected to spend four days in Iraq in the hope that he will be received by President Saddam Husayn.

The Iraqi News Agency quotes Mr. Semerdzhiev as saying that our country would like the Persian Gulf crisis to be resolved through peaceful means.

Evacuation Talks Begin

AU2310111290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] As is known, Atanas Semerdzhiev, vice president of the Republic, arrived in Baghdad yesterday, as special emissary of President Zhelyu Zhelev and the Bulgarian Government. The delegation also includes members of the main political forces in the Grand National Assembly. The aim of the visit is to negotiate the return of the Bulgarians who have remained in Iraq after the occupation of Kuwait.

To find out what the Bulgarian mission has achieved so far, Violeta Momchilova telephoned Kiryak Tsonev, an ambassador and deputy chief of the Arab Countries Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who replied as follows:

[Begin Tsonev recording] Yesterday, at 1300 Bulgarian time [1100 GMT], the Bulgarian delegation led by Vice President Atanas Semerdzhiev arrived at Baghdad Airport. The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Vice President Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, who also led the Iraqi delegation at the talks which began yesterday evening.

It has become known that Vice President Ma'ruf gave a detailed explanation of the Iraqi position concerning the crisis in the Persian Gulf. He gave a high assessment to the cooperation between Bulgarian organizations and Iraq so far, and the readiness shown for its development in the future. He stated that the Iraqi side will investigate the question of the evacuation of a portion of the Bulgarian citizens in Iraq. While doind so, they will stress that they were guests of Iraq, that they were living in the same conditions as the Iraqi people, and that Iraq was ready to consider ways to improve their situation.

Vice President Semerdzhiev also had a meeting with representatives of the Bulgarian economic organizations in Iraq. Certain meetings are expected at a higher level, and the talks are continuing. [end recording]

Assembly Chairman Todorov Meets USSR's Lukyanov

AU2210203290 Sofia BTA in English 1839 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Moscow, October 22 (BTA correspondent)—Academician Nikolay Todorov, chairman of the Grand National Assembly of Bulgaria, conferred here with Mr. Anatoliy Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet. An emphasis was laid on the need to activate the contacts between the two parliaments, between their committees and commissions so as to find solutions to the specific problems in bilateral cooperation. It was emphasized that this is in the best interests of security and stability on the continent.

SFRY Military Delegation Arrives on Visit

AU2010183890 Sofia BTA in English 1746 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Oct (BTA)—A delegation of the Armed Forces of Yugoslavia headed by Colonel-General Blagoje Adzic, chief of the General Staff, arrived here today to pay a visit at the invitation of the Bulgarian defence minister.

The Ministry of National Defence announced that the two sides had talks which would contribute to a great extent to the further promotion of the two countries' good neighbourly relations.

At the meeting with Colonel-General Yordan Mutafchiev, minister of national defence, and Colonel-General Radnyu Minchev, deputy minister of national defence and chief of the General Staff of the Bulgarian Armed Forces, it was underlined that the relations between the Bulgarian and the Yugoslav People's Armies should be strengthened and that the exchange of experience in different sections of military construction should be expanded.

Talks on EC Association To Begin End of Nov

AU1910204390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] The EC and Bulgaria have agreed to begin preliminary negotiations on Bulgaria's association with the EC at the end of November, during the session of the mixed commission on trade and economic cooperation which is to be held in Sofia. This was decided at the meeting held today between Frans Andriessen, vice president of the EC Commission, and Atanas Ginev, the Bulgarian ambassador to the EC.

Frans Andriessen, who is responsible to the commission for foreign relations, trade policy, and cooperation with the European countries outside the EC, expressed readiness for a start to be made at the session in Sofia on preliminary talks on Bulgaria's association with the EC. He will lead the EC delegation to the session, which will also discuss the possibilities for expanding trade and economic cooperation with our country.

SDS Conditions for Return to National Assembly

AU2210161290 Sofia BTA in English 1530 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, October 22 (BTA)—The opposition Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] lays down two conditions for a resumption of the sittings of the Grand National Assembly: A passage of the depoliticization act which would be extended to the diplomatic service and support for the president's suggestion to send a Bulgarian military contingent in the Persian Gulf, the SDS leader Mr. Petur Beron told the press today. "If these two conditions are not met, we can't see a reason why parliament should go on working," he added.

Due to the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] M.P. reluctance to vote for the depoliticization of the diplomatic service, the opposition walked out of the plenary sitting on October 18. After consultations among the major political forces on the following day it became clear that a compromise has been reached on that contentious matter: Diplomats would be barred from joining political parties and the ambassadors would freeze their membership. Mr. Petur Beron today announced that the employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have decided that the depoliticization should affect all ministry employees. The consultations will go on tomorrow. The progress of the talks between the leaders of the political forces will probably determine whether the opposition will attend the sitting of parliament on Wednesday.

SDS Rally in Plovdiv Rejects Lukanov Proposal

AU2210212690 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2100 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] A mass rally of the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] took place in the center of Plovdiv today. The participants adopted a declaration in which they rejected Premier Andrey Lukanov's proposal to impose a three-day moratorium on public demonstrations. The declaration states as follows: We shall support all constructive actions of the government which meet our approval, but we will apply all methods of active legal protest against measures we disapprove.

Poll Shows Fall in Rating of Lukanov Government

AU2010194990 Sofia BTA in English 1909 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Oct (BTA)—The latest opinion poll shows that the rating of the Bulgarian Government headed by Mr. Andrey Lukanov is going down. The results of the survey held this week with 200 prominent experts in different fields of life indicate that in two weeks there may be a cabinet crisis.

Although his popularity has gone down by 8 points, Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov is still leading the list of approvals. On the other hand the rating of the opposition leaders Dimitur Ludzhev and Stoyan Ganev as alternative prime ministers has gone up.

The results were commented in the Panorama Political Review aired by the Bulgarian Television this evening.

DPS Opens Extraordinary National Conference

AU2010160790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] The Rights and Freedoms Movement [DPS] opened an extraordinary national conference in the People's Palace of Culture in Sofia today. Representatives of the political forces in the country and from other countries and their embassies are attending the conference as guests.

The conference was opened by the oldest delegate, Docent Asen Kantardzhiev, after which DPS Chairman Medi Doganov read a report on the period since the movement's constituent conference. He explained that the reason for convening the conference was the new political situation in which, for the first time since 1947, the opposition forces in Bulgaria have a real presence. Mr. Doganov emphasized that as defender of the individual rights of the Bulgarian citizens, the movement jealously guards the rights and freedoms of all ethnic and cultural communities.

The movement's fundamental claim for a political role in Bulgaria was once again put forward. With regard to the organizational structure, particular importance was placed on setting up municipal councils of the movement and cultural and information clubs, and on drawing up an elementary statute for the movement's deputies in parliament.

In conclusion Mr. Medi Doganov pointed out that, as an all-embracing organization for human rights and freedoms, the movement will continue in the future to work for democratic changes in Bulgaria.

Displeased With Political Polarization

AU2010160890 Sofia BTA in English 1422 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Oct (BTA)—The Movement for Rights and Freedoms (MRF) [DPS] which covers about 100 thousand Muslims in the country has the ambition to turn into a universal organization defending the universal rights and freedoms of man and of all ethnical and cultural communities. This became clear at the extraordinary national conference of the MRF opened here today.

According to the leader of the MRF, Mr. Ahmed Dogan [also known as Medi Doganov], the conference was convened to discuss the new political situation in the country and the necessity to work not only for the restoration of the rights of the Bulgarian citizens violated at the time of the so-called "regenerative process" (by some estimations about 320 thousand people went to neighbouring Turkey,) but for overcoming the economic crisis as well.

Mr. Ahmed Dogan presented the report of the MRF Central Operative Bureau in which the idea of turning the movement into a party was rejected and an opinion was expressed that the parliamentary group of the MRF, which ranks third by the number of seats in the Bulgarian parliament, may become the nucleus of a future political centre in the Grand National Assembly. The movement is discontented with the polarization of the political life in the country and mainly with the polarization between the Bulgarian Socialist Party and the Union of Democratic Forces.

The MRF intends to create a system of cultural and information centres in the regions inhabited by compact masses of Muslim population and to introduce the study of the Turkish language in the school year curriculum—there will be four classes every week.

A report was presented about the elections for the Grand National Assembly, the conclusions drawn from the results and about the preparations for the local authorities elections. It was stressed that the MRF is for guaranteeing Bulgaria's territorial integrity and against any idea of autonomy and separatism.

Hold News Conference

AU2110195090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] On 21 October at the People's Palace of Culture in Sofia, a news conference was given on the extraordinary national conference of the Rights and Freedoms Movement [DPS] which took place on 20 and 21 October in Sofia.

Ahmed Dogan, DPS chairman, and members of the leadership briefed the journalists on the conclusions of the conference's work and the political role of the organizations in the light of the country's new realities.

The movement will further develop and strengthen its structure and continue its activity for the protection of the elementary rights and freedoms of all Bulgarian citizens, regardless of their origin, religion, and ethnic background.

In response to questions posed by the journalists, Ahmed Dogan pointed out that the serious parliamentary differences of opinions between the Union of Democratic Forces and the Bulgarian Socialist Party underline the necessity of forming a strong parliamentary center, which will guarantee the social security of the democratic processes in the country. The DPS has always supported the opposition, however, the present situation requires that the movement assumes a new position as a parliamentary center.

The journalists were interested in the declaration to the Presidency, adopted today by the delegates. The declaration demands that responsibility be sought from those guilty of initiating the so-called process of restoration in Bulgaria.

At the news conference it was announced that a newspaper, RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, will be published. Its main goal will be to overcome the information blackout in anything related to the DPS.

Further on News Conference

AU2110202790 Sofia BTA in English 1937 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, October 21 (BTA)—The Movement for Rights and Freedoms (MRF) [DPS], which unites about 100 thousand Bulgarian citizens of Turkish ethnic origin, is determined to form "a center" in the conditions of sharp polarization of the political life in the country. At a news conference held here this evening after the completion of the two-day Extraordinary National Conference of the MRF, the representatives of the leadership of the movement expressed their fears regarding the future of the country which may be faced with a cabinet and a parliamentary crisis, the way out of which might include the establishment of a military dictatorship.

The leader of the MRF, Mr. Ahmed Dogan, emphasized several times that the "ethnic communities" in the country should consolidate and stressed the loyalty of the MRF members to Bulgaria and their Bulgarian nationality.

The MRF, which now seeks to safeguard man's universal rights and freedoms and which is the third biggest parliamentary force in the country, distances itself from any manifestations of extremism. It became known at the news conference that two members of the MRF leadership, one of whom is a member of Parliament, were dismissed not only from the MRF governing bodies, but were expelled from the movement for nationalistic manifestations. Mr. Ahmed Dogan declared that the MRF parliamentary group now has one member less, i.e. it is made up of 22 people.

Two women have been included in the MRF leadership which is considered to be an expression of the democratization of the organization.

The conference has adopted a declaration to the Presidency of the country in which it is insisted that the authors and the perpetrators of the "regenerative process" in which part of the population was renamed and expelled to Turkey should be hold responsible for their acts. The MRF is prepared to present the related evidence.

In reply to a question the MRF leadership condemned the aggression of Iraq in Kuwait and the annexation of Kuwait, but spoke against sending a limited Bulgarian military unit to the Persian Gulf region. It was pointed out that the idea of sending a medical team and of a covering anti-chemical weapons unit on which the parliamentary political forces are expected to make a compromise was put forward by the representatives of the MRF.

Mr. Ahmed Dogan considers that the problem with the petrol shortage can be solved in the coming years by securing the wherewithal in foreign currency through exporting tobacco. In his opinion as early as next year tobacco crop will increase by 100 percent.

ASO Split on Issue of Leaving BSP

AU2010191290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] The Sixth National Conference of the Alternative Socialist Association [ASO], a faction in the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP], was held in Sofia today. It was attended by representatives from 60 ASO clubs in Sofia and throughout the country.

From the very start of the conference, the delegates split into two camps. One insisted that ASO should remain in the BSP, while the other demanded that it should leave the party. After many hours of debate, a vote was taken, in which 67 delegates voted for the association leaving the BSP, and 42 voted that it should remain in the party. This in fact means that the ASO has split once again. The delegates who voted for leaving the BSP have the ambition of forming an independent, autonomous organization which is to form the basis of a future Bulgarian socialist alliance.

The supporters of the idea that ASO should remain in the BSP as an internal party opposition declared the conference's decision to be illegitimate, because according to the ASO statute the faction can dissolve itself by way of a referendum.

The two newly formed organizations elected their own provisional leaderships and resolved to cooperate in the future, if at all possible.

Provisional Executive Committee Founded in Plovdiv

AU2110194790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] After long and futile negotiations and interference on the part of the Council of Ministers, the political forces in Plovdiv finally reached an agreement on appointing the 11 members of the Provisional Executive Committee of the People's Council. Only representatives of the three main political forces are members of the committee. Five of its members are representatives of the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS], three are members of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP], and three are members of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union [BZNS]. This reflect, to a large degree, the results of the parliamentary elections.

Nikolay Tsomlev of the SDS was elected chairman of the Provisional Executive Committee, Todor Popov of the BSP is deputy chairman, and Lidiya Genkova of the BZNS is the secretary.

Committee of Volunteers for Justice Founded

AU2110182790 Sofia BTA in English 1755 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, October 21 (BTA)—A Committee of Bulgarian Volunteers for Justice was founded here today. Its members declare that they are not party members and that they are independent of the political forces and movements in Bulgaria. They have made it their object to safeguard civil rights and the right of the peoples to self-determination, laying also stress on the necessity of giving guarantees against aggression to small states and national communities in general and to Bulgaria in particular.

The founders back up the initiative of the president of the Republic for sending a Bulgarian corps of volunteers who, as a unit of the Bulgarian Army, will join the multinational Armed Forces under the aegis of the United Nations Security Council and will take part in the protection of the territorial integrity and the sovereignty of Kuwait against the aggression of Iraq.

It is insisted that the Grand National Assembly should immediately adopt a decision for the formation and sending of this corps.

Chief Mufti Says Muslim Life Becoming Normal

AU2010183990 Sofia BTA in English 1735 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Vienna, 20 Oct (BTA)—"The Bulgarian Muslims enjoy complete religious freedom: All the 1,000 mosques are open, we can publish literature, we issue the 'Muslims' paper, new Islamic religious schools have been opened," Dr. Ginyo Gendzhev [first name as received], chief mufti of the Muslims in Bulgaria, said at a press conference in Vienna. He paid a short visit here on his way to Mecca. Further on Dr. Gendzhev stressed that the socio-economic and cultural rights of the Muslim population and especially the property rights of part of the people who returned to Bulgaria after the exodus in May 1989 must be fully restored. He expressed his discontent with the big political forces' flirting with the interests and the rights of the Muslims and with the sluggishness in settling their problems.

Answering a question Dr. Gendzhev pointed out that the Turkish ethnic group should not be identified with the Islamic community in Bulgaria. He said that the groups professing Islam are of different origin: Turks, Muslim gypsies and some other people. He added that in his capacity of chief mufti he is the religious leader and exponent of the interests of all Muslims in Bulgaria.

As exact statistical data is not available, we assume that the total number of Muslims in Bulgaria is 1.6 million, including about one million Turks, 350 thousand Muslim gypsies and 300 thousand people of other origin, he said.

The life of the Muslims in the country is coming back to normal and on the whole they are calming down, although some Muslims are still seized by fear and feel uncertain, the chief mufti explained. But this is rather a result of remnants of the past and the reaction of part of the former nomenclature and some nationalistic circles. Now things are changing very quickly and the people are overcoming their fears.

Dr. Gendzhev said that the Bulgarian Muslims support the just cause of the people of Palestine. He underlined that the Bulgarian Muslims condemn the annexation of Kuwait by Iraq. The presence of foreign troops in Saudi Arabia lies within the competence of the government of Saudi Arabia and is not a religious problem as long as the territory of the holy places—Mecca, and Medina and the surrounding area—is not violated by non-Muslims.

New Press Subscription Campaign Scheduled

AU1910101990 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 17 Oct 90 p 1

[Nikolay Kunchev report: "Subscription Campaign Will Begin on 22 October"]

[Text] The forthcoming subscription campaign will be the first free and fully democratic such campaign in many years, said Ventsislav Krustev, chief director of "Postal Communications" Department at the Committee on Communications and Information, to a DUMA reporter. Subscriptions will be received without any limitation in the dissemination of the newspapers.

A catalogue of Bulgarian newspapers, magazines, libraries, and surveys has been published. It will help the Bulgarian citizens to decide on their subscriptions for 1991. The catalogue includes all publications that announced in writing by 28 September that they agree to be disseminated by the "Press Dissemination" Economic Administration and sold in the streets.

The subscription campaign will begin on 22 October and will continue until 30 November. The subscription can be entered at every post office by the post office employees or newspapers' representatives.

The editorial boards determine the duration and price of the subscription. The price of the annual subscription for some of our dailies, as published in the catalogue, is: VECHERNI NOVINI—80 leva; DEMOKRATSIYA—104 leva; DUMA—112.62 leva (313 issues of DUMA will be disseminated through subscription, while the Sunday issues will be sold in the streets); ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME—87.60 leva; ZEMYA—93.60 leva; MLADEZH—90 leva; NARODNA ARMIYA—65 leva; NARODNO ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME—80 leva; OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK—104 leva; SVOBODEN NAROD—only the price for the first three months has been published—23.25 leva; and TRUD—91 leva.

The municipal newspapers appear in the catalogue only with their name and catalogue number. Dissemination of these papers will be effected on the basis of bilateral agreements between the respective editorial board and the territorial communications administration.

The Committee on Communications and Information has worked out an anti-crisis program, because it is seriously threatened by the petroleum crisis. The daily dissemination of the newspapers by the post office facilities involves the travelling of some 47,000 kilometers. Dissemination in the former Smolyan and Kurdzhali Okrugs is done entirely by car. There is a shortage of suitable post office cars in our trains.

Catholic Church Granted Corporate Status

AU1910204890 Sofia BTA in English 1905 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 19 Oct (BTA)—At the proposal of the Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs, the respective formalities have been performed by which the Catholic Church in Bulgaria is granted the status of a body corporate.

This act is completely in line with the democratic changes in society and the accords on religious freedoms reached in Vienna. The Catholic Church is given all legal possibilities and guarantees to carry out its religious and patriotic mission in the spirit of universal human values.

Ruse Catholic Church Marks 100th Anniversary

AU2110193890 Sofia BTA in English 1856 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Ruse, October 21 (BTA)—A prelatic divine service was held here today to mark the 100th anniversary of St. Paul of the Cross Cathedral in Ruse. A lot of Bulgarian Catholics and citizens attended the service, thus giving expression to their desire for peace and unity of the Christian world.

The Catholic cathedral in Ruse was build in 1890-1893 and designed by the Italian architect Valentino. It is the sole neo-Gothic church in Bulgaria. It has beautiful stained glass supplied from Budapest; its altar and furniture were made in Vienna. Its organ, which until recently was the only one in the country, was bought in Germany in 1908.

'Mr.' Introduced as Form of Address in Army

AU2210091190 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 18 Oct 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Mr. Also in the Army...."]

[Text] A few days ago the minister of national defense signed a decree according to which, beginning 1 November, the official form of address between soldiers, military employees, and workers will be Mr., Mrs., and Miss.

Until 1 November, the commanders and heads of all military units will insert the changes stemming from this decree in the standard military forms and will explain the objective necessity of introducing the change.

Deputy Interior Ministers Recalled From Posts

AU2310080590 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 19 Oct 90 pp 1, 3

["(JAD)"-signed report: "Dismissed Deputies"]

[Text] Prague—At its session on Thursday [18 October] the Federal Government recalled Deputy Interior Ministers Andrej Samel and Miroslav Kral. They were recalled in connection with the new and comprehensive reorganization of the federal Interior Ministry.

For the same reason federal Interior Minister Jan Langos issued an order on Thursday abolishing his ministry's intelligence service. Radovan Prochazka, the intelligence service chief, was entrusted with establishing a liquidation commission. Approximately 600 intelligence service employees were transferred to the Interior Ministry active reserves with immediate effect. The prohibition on entry into the intelligence office building, which has been secured against the unauthorized manipulation of documentary materials, also applies to them.

According to reports from the Federal Interior Ministry, the ministry is making sufficient provision for the necessary intelligence service required to ensure the safe operation of our representative offices abroad.

Mohorita Removed From Federal Assembly Presidium

LD2210210990 Prague CTK in English 1616 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 22 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party Deputy Vasil Mohorita was today recalled from the Federal Assembly (parliament) Presidium with 86 votes for and 31 against.

A proposal by a group of deputies on Mohorita's dismissal was the main item on the agenda of today's session of the parliament's House of the People.

Vasil Mohorita's statement of October 5 that the "period of national understanding (in Czechoslovakia) has ended and a period of tough and uncompromising struggle begins" has aroused protests by the public including mass demonstrations. Mohorita, the Czechoslovak Communist Party first secretary after the fall of the communist regime in Czechoslovakia in November 1989, claims that the campaign launched against him is to discredit the party leadership before the local elections (November 1990) and the party congress (November 3-4, 1990).

In October a group of 78 House of the People deputies demanded Mohorita's dismissal from the Federal Assembly Presidium, saying that the "composition of the Presidium should be in harmony with confidence of deputies and the public."

House of the People Chairman Rudolf Battek stated that the election of Mohorita to the parliament's Presidium after the June 8-9 elections was a result of political agreement of the parliament that its composition be proportional to general representation of the political parties. Mr. Battek said that "this agreement is no longer in force and if deputies have a reason to dismiss Mr. Mohorita there can be no objections."

[Prague Domestic Service in Czech at 1130 GMT broadcasts a report by Roman Zamboch on Mohorita's recall from the Federal Assembly Presidium which adds the following: "To complete my report I wish to add that the recall of Vasil Mohorita as a member of the Federal Assembly Presidium changes nothing in the validity of his mandate as a deputy. Thus, Deputy Mohorita remains a member of our highest legislative body."]

Deputies Protest Mohorita Dismissal

LD2210211290 Prague CTK in English 1927 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 22 (CTK)—Communist deputies see no reasons for today's dismissal of Vasil Mohorita, the Communist Party deputy and party first secretary, from the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly Presidium, according to a statement of the Club of Communist Deputies issued here today.

The statement further said that "the Mohorita issue" serves in fact as a pretext for the attack on the principle of proportional representation of political parties and movements in the Presidium and other Federal Assembly bodies. The Federal Assembly Presidium should remain a body reflecting in a proportionate political way results of the last June elections, the statement said.

Mohorita Asks Calfa To Reconsider Expropriation

AU2310092690 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 18 Oct 90 pp 1, 2

[Letter from CPCZ First Secretary Vasil Mohorita to Premier Marian Calfa: "Communist Party of Czechoslovakia on the Proposal To Expropriate the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Property"]

[Text] Esteemed Mr. Premier: At the news conference with Minister K. Korinkova I have learned that in the upcoming days the CSFR Government will discuss the draft constitutional law on the return of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] property to the people of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic.

An institute is being introduced thereby, which, in its consequences, represents the nationalization or transfer of property into state ownership without compensation. This is in an apparent contradiction to the provisions of Article 9 of the Constitution, i.e., Law No. 100 of 1960 in the rendition of Law No. 100 of 1990, according to which expropriation or any other coerced restriction of the property rights is possible only in public interest. This can only be done according to law, or on a legal basis, while applying compensation [for the confiscated property].

The anticipated constitutional amendment weakens the above-mentioned constitutional principle and creates a state of legal uncertainty, not only with respect to the property rights of our citizens but also with respect to ownership and ownership rights of legal persons and foreigners, who engage in entrepreneurial activity, or intend to engage in entrepreneurial activity, on the CSFR territory.

The underestimation of the international aspects of the prepared provision could, among other things, call in question the government's readiness to respect the Charter of Economic Rights and Obligations of States, declared by the UN General Assembly on 12 December 1974.

Please, be so kind, Mr. Premier, as to acquaint members of the government with my letter and to reconsider all the aspects of such a provision.

Evidence Leading to Vacek's Dismissal Cited

AU2310083590 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 19 Oct 90 pp 1, 2

["jet"-signed report: "November 1989 Proved To Be Ominous for Him; The Army Was Readier Than it Seemed"]

[Excerpts] Prague—General Miroslav Vacek conscientiously complied with all orders prior to November 1989 and he conscientiously implemented the line set after November 1989, already as minister of defense. The second earned him words of recognition from the president, the first was the reason for the president to recall him from his post. This is how one might sum up the content of yesterday's news conference on the conclusions reached by the commission investigating Czechoslovak Army activities in November 1989. [passage omitted]

It was only after being pressed by correspondents of our newspaper that [the president's spokesman] Michael Zantovsky announced that, according to the commission's finding, the Army command organized—on the basis of a request from Rudolf Hegenbart, the then chief of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Central Committee department in charge of the Army and security forces and, apparently, one of the eminences grises of the November [1989] events—the so-called operation "Wave," whose aim was to install Army specialists in the radio and television and thus gain control over their broadcasts. The operation was commanded by, among others, General Vacek. On 24 November, on the basis of instructions from [the then Defense Minister] General Vaclavik, General Vacek prepared a consultative meeting with the staff of the Ministry of Interior—General Lorenc, Colonel Vykypel, and Colonel Smid (all of whom certainly know enough about the background of 17 November). According to the commission, General Vacek also at least twice personally telephoned the second tank regiment, which was being prepared as a reserve force for deployment in Prague, in order to verify its being on alert.... [passage omitted]

Havel Under Pressure Over Vacek Recall

AU2310082790 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 19 Oct 90 p 2

[Martin Komarek commentary: "Recalled With Complete Confidence"]

[Text] When President Vaclav Havel presented the government born out of the free elections to parliament, he declared in reference to General Vacek: "I am absolutely convinced he deserves credit for ensuring that, during the most dramatic days of the final death throes of the totalitarian regime, no one even attempted to misuse our Army against the people." However, the final report of the commission investigating the Army's activities in November 1989—which was published yesterday—makes no mention of any credit. On the contrary. Miroslav Vacek, who at that time was chief of the General Staff, prepared a plan oriented toward the armed control of television and radio and coordinated Army activity with senior members of the secret police headed by the notorious General Lorenc.

The president was briefed on the commission's report on Tuesday [16 October] evening and recalled the defense minister without delay on Wednesday morning. However, the dismissal was not implemented in a bitter spirit and the minister was praised in it. Once again it is mentioned that he played a role in ensuring that the Army was not eventually used. Nevertheless, the minister himself has admitted that emergency orders did in fact exist. However, it is important that they were not fulfilled. It is difficult to believe that President Havel would not know anything to this day about Vacek's November activities. If this was indeed the case—based only on the minister's direct lies—then it would be impossible to explain the very conciliatory tone of the dismissal. The commission, it seems, merely clarified the facts and suppositions known to the general public and—the more so—to people in senior political posts. However, if Jiri Krizan, the president's adviser, was still expressing complete support for the defense minister on the president's behalf on Monday [15 October], the decision was undoubtedly a quick one.

Of course, it would be naive to assume that the commission's report was his only—or even overwhelming—motive for the dismissal. The strategic plan aimed toward ensuring that the head of the country's defense is generally respected—and, as far as possible, a civilian not affiliated to any party—was certainly correct; however, it could have been implemented sooner rather than later. Current political pressures could play a vital role in the president's course of action. The most important of these do not even have to be the public calls for Vacek's resignation and the numerous parliamentary interpellations. Influential personalities, including representatives of the Civic Forum, have always supported the minister as a professional and as an honorable man.

In the background to all of this may be an attempt to replace moderate politicians, especially those with a communist past, with radicals which would go some way toward satisfying the public's desire for speedily and thoroughly settling accounts with the past. These tendencies have been on the increase recently and have been assisted by the scandalous statements made by Vasil Mohorita, the communist leader. The radicals, some deputies and senior officials in important ministries, assume that only decisive steps can stop Czechoslovak policy from pathetically dragging its feet. Perhaps the president is also inclined toward their point of view. However, it is not even out of the question that he acceded to very strong pressures in order to confront other pressures in the interest of preserving our brittle stability.

Defense Minister Issues Orders on Army Tasks

LD2210151190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1300 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Defense Minister Lubos Dobrovsky issued an order on the most important tasks facing the Armed Forces today.

He recalled that the process of democratization and the strengthening of the internal stability and international authority of our country was being asserted through the life and activity of the Armed Forces.

He said it was also to General Miroslav Vacek's merit that the Armed Forces was defined as the Armed Forces of a democratic state.

The defense minister called on all soldiers and civilian workers employed in the military administration to try to ensure that the Czechoslovak Armed Forces, built on the principle of defense sufficiency, become a stabilizing factor in the development of our society.

No Army Purges Envisaged

LD2310161990 Prague CTK in English 1409 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Bratislava Oct 23 (CTK)—"There will be no purges in the Czechoslovak Army." The Defence Ministry wants to "promote the powers of commanders who must feel greater responsibility for orders they issue," new Czechoslovak Defence Minister Lubos Dobrovsky said.

Addressing officers of the eastern military zone command which he inspected in Trencin, Central Slovakia, today, he said that officers will be evaluated in harmony with their abilities and moral profile. Within his powers a commander must decide about ability or disability of a soldier to fulfil set tasks, the minister stated.

He expressed conviction that the democratization and humanization process, started in November 1989, would be completed successfully providing all army units cooperate with the army command. In this context, he appreciated the initiative and military qualification of his predecessor Army General Miroslav Vacek. The Army would have much more difficult tasks to tackle in the near future, if it were not for Vacek's activities, Mr Dobrovsky stressed. Educational work, however, cannot be conducted only in the Army. The public as well must be involved in it and must realize that the Army is here to make civilian life and society secure, the new defence minister said.

Stepan Jailed for Abuse of Official Powers

LD2210211590 Prague CTK in English 1647 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 22 (CTK)—A Prague municipal court today found Miroslav Stepan, 45, the former Prague City Communist Party chief secretary, guilty of having abused the powers of a public official and sentenced him to two and a half years in prison.

On October 28, 1988, Stepan ordered that water cannons and teargas grenades be used against demonstrators in Prague.

Stepan was taken into custody on December 23, 1989. After the first trial he was sentenced to four years imprisonment on July 9, 1990. He appealed against the sentence and was released from custody on July 16. Stepan, a Communist Party Presidium member in 1988-89, was expelled from the party in December 1989.

Latest Developments on Political Scene Analyzed

AU2210194090 Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech 19 Oct 90 p 3

[Vit Stranak article: "The Federation and Local Elections"]

[Text] If I were to go to the polls today, I would vote for the Movement of Czech/Slovak Accord. Only I do not know whether it would be too late for it or not. Not only differences in the republican governments' approaches to current problems but, above all, differences in the general development of the social and political climate in the two republics are becoming increasingly evident. Regrettably, I am forced to admit that for the "lands of the Czech crown" the comparison is not very favorable.

Political life in Slovakia is much more diverse and yet internally more cohesive than is the case in the Czech Republic. It is dominated by four clearly defined and strong political parties (the Slovak National Party, the Christian Democratic Movement, the Public Against Violence movement, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia) and by an energetic republican government which enjoys the confidence of more than three quarters of the population. The government has, moreover, as the September survey by the Group for Independent Social Analysis (AISA) demonstrates, managed to make its way even into local politics where, paradoxically, it is not in competition with the somewhat radical Slovak National Party. The position of this party is particularly strong in

Bratislava (47 percent) where it could seriously upset the political stability of the federation. The only hope left to us is that the Slovak National Party will not pursue a narrow separatist program. The Slovaks' view of the Czech Government (which is trusted by only about 30 percent of them) should be a warning to us.

The situation in Bohemia is somewhat flat, one-dimensional. Those who are not communists are Civic Forum supporters. The absence of a strong and constructive right-wing-oriented party is severely felt. Let us hope that the Czechoslovak People's Party will become such a party. The "Greens" could also have a say in the local elections but, apparently, only in the ecologically devastated basin below the Krusne Hory mountain range. South Bohemia, on the other hand, is traditionally a communist bastion.

The Civic Forum's position in Moravia is far from being as firm as in Bohemia. In Moravia it will be the Movement for Self-Governing Democracy/Society for Moravia and Silesia that will go into the local elections with the best chances. The growing number of supporters of this party in South Moravia (48 percent in September) is a bit frightening because it portends a potential parliamentary crisis. At the same time it shows, however, that we have neglected something in this area [of regional autonomy].

The AISA survey revealed yet another alarming fact: the Czech Government's detachment from local problems. The proclaimed reinforcement of Czech statehood remains for the time being on the philosophical plane and the policy of the Czech Government is, compared with the Slovak Government, rather bland. A strong federation should supposedly be based on strong republics. Inasmuch as possible, it should be republics that are equally strong.

To sum it all up, I believe that the all too simple distribution of political forces in Bohemia is the outcome of an official scenario, from which the Slovak Republic—and, in part, also Moravia—have wrenched themselves loose. Yet only time will show. It would surely be a mistake if, following an example set by the previous regime, we used as an excuse "unfavorable conditions." Democracy is established by patient, everyday efforts and, as the classic dictum goes, wise men stride evenly. Let us therefore keep a cool head for the moment and let us be prepared for anything. Local elections need not decide on local affairs alone.

Finance Minister Appeals to Trade Union Members

AU2210091090 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 18 Oct 90 p 1

["ci"-signed report: "The Danger of False Illusions"]

[Text] The speed of economic growth, the inflation rate, the employment or unemployment rate, and debt—these are the four main issues of our economic reform. These are also the four key problems about which the trade unions care—and must care. As much as we can, we want to share with them the formulation of these problems and we wish to lead a dialogue with the trade unions regarding these problems. Using these words, Vaclav Klaus, CSFR minister of finance, appealed to all trade union members for cooperation and, thereby, following Minister P. Miller, he took another step on the road of establishing contacts between the government and trade unions, which were severed in the very recent past.

At the meeting, chairmen and representatives of all 59 trade unions heard the finance minister's explication of the principles the economic reform and the first tasks to be done by his ministry. Referring to yesterday's opening negotiations with the IMF mission regarding a loan desperately needed by the Czechoslovak economy Minister Klaus said that the Czechoslovak side prepared a medley of alternative short-term economic policies on the basis of which the mission will determine whether, and to what extent, the CSFR deserves the IMF support. "We can borrow more or less. If we borrow a lot, our hands will be tied. If we do not borrow anything, our difficulties and shocks might be so great as to surpass the bounds of tolerance," the minister said. At the same time, he drew attention to the fact that, as one of the 154 IMF-member countries, the CSFR does not belong among the countries applauded by the world and offered loans, as is often implied by some published materials. We are far from belonging to the countries which now have the absolute priority regarding loan offers—these are, above all, countries affected by the oil crisis and the neighboring countries (the situation in Jordan, where the national product since the beginning of the oil crisis declined by full 40 percent, was described by the minister as a particularly difficult one). We are not even in the second priority group, comprised of poor oil-importing countries. The CSFR may be included in the third group of reforming East European countries, but even in this group, the USSR has an absolute priority over the CSFR. Based on these facts, the minister warned against false illusions about the status of Czechoslovakia in the finance world and asserted that not only we ourselves do not want to get in too great a debt but there is also the question where and what money is available. In closing, Vaclav Klaus said that he personally and his team will do everything for the CSFR getting by 1 January 1991 financial support from abroad in an amount as absolutely needed.

Calfa Discusses 'Qualitative Changes' in Society

LD2010090490 Prague Television Service in Czech 1850 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Interview with CSFR Prime Minister Marian Calfa by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given; correspondent's questions in Czech, Calfa answers in Slovak; from the "Ten Minutes With the Prime Minister" program—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Correspondent] The main event this week was the recall of Defense Minister Vacek. I think this has been explained, and there is perhaps no point in returning to it. But what I would like to ask is this: What importance do you attach to the fact that after a long time a civilian, Mr. Dobrovskiy, now heads the Ministry of National Defense?

[Calfa] I would like this to be understood as it was intended to be understood, as a very vigorous signal that real qualitative changes are beginning—in this case, qualitative changes in our Army—and that qualitative changes are also beginning in political life, because, after all, it is a big change to have a civilian heading our Army. Mr. Dobrovsky, who has one an extremely good job already as deputy foreign minister and has been very energetic right from the start in that he stated his definite idea about the position of the Army in a democratic society, democracy in the Army, unequivocally takes the view that the Army needs to have a commander and that the army can be subject to scrutiny by democratic institutions, above all the Federal Assembly and its committees.

I would like this to be understood as the first in a series of energetic steps that we will take not only in the political sphere, of course, but also in the economic sphere. The time for thinking, the time for seeking is coming to an end; the time for steps, forceful steps, is beginning; the time for action is starting.

[Correspondent] One thing has occurred to me about this change at the Ministry of National Defense which has been forgotten to some extent. Since the death of Minister Stracar there is one post vacant in the government, and this matter has not, in fact, been resolved. What can you say to that?

[Calfa] It would be more precise to say that there are two posts vacant in the government at the moment.

As far as the foreign trade minister post is concerned, it is true that some time has elapsed since the tragic death of Minister Stracar, but right at that time a rather extensive discussion began about changes in the division of powers between the federation and the republics. This will undoubtedly affect the area of foreign trade and the whole field covered by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade. The post of minister belongs, by agreement between the coalition parties, to the Slovak party Public Against Violence [VPN]; it is a post reserved for a Slovak, for a member of VPN. I consulted VPN representatives on this matter, and we agreed that the post will be filled only if there is a need. After all the discussion about power-sharing and after the issue has been ratified by the Federal Assembly, we will weigh up whether there is a need, within the powers that still remain at Federal level, for the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade to be retained, in other words whether there will be a need for the post of minister of foreign trade. In my view, this is a matter of two months or so. So far, this ministry has been run at top level by Deputy Premier Vales through the deputy ministers, so the cooperations of that ministry are maintained.

As for the second post, that was one reserved for the Christian-Democratic Movement [KDH], the third coalition partner in the Federal Government. It was the post of federal minister of economic competition. As you know, the Federal Assembly approved the establishment of that federal department, but it is the same story as in the previous case: the CDM has been seeking someone for that ministerial post for some time, and now it is once against a matter of the power-sharing discussions. The situation here is a little clearer in that the view is being taken that this jurisdiction should not exist at federal level, so here, too, by agreement with the CDM, we are waiting to see how things turn out for this sphere.

For the time being, these duties are being discharged in absentia, so to speak, by republican-level representatives, because this is a field where norms need to be set, it must function, because it is part and parcel of the economic reform arrangements.

[Correspondent] finally, I would like to return to what yu said a few moments ago, to the forceful steps of economic reform. It has now become a dictum that with devaluation, economic reform is truly underway. On the other hand, there are voices asking whether all these peripheral influences—the Persian Gulf, the Soviet Union, the oil problems—will not throw a monkey wrench into our economic reform. May I, therefore, ask your view of the pace?

[Calfa] I would say that, by and large, the influence from abroad is quite the reverse. That influence is tending to make us accelerate all the steps and is showing that there is no alternative but to put into effect very forcefully and very quickly all the steps which we advertised in the economic reform blueprint we proposed to the Federal Assembly, which subsequently ratified it or adopted it. The government now is going to hold sessions on 20, 22, and 25 October, that is to say three meetings in rapid succession. it is going to adopt a series of bills needed for economic reform. In other words, there is no longer any doubt about the pace of economic reform: the issue now is for us to make the proper preparation for all these steps, to adopt them very promptly, and because most of them are in the form of legislation, to submit them in the time available to the Federal Assembly for discussion and approval so that they can come into force from January. The time for seeking has ended; the time has come for very radical and forceful steps, particularly in the economy, and I must say clearly that this pace is, in fact, pivotal to the further survival of the economy, and that is all there is to it.

Calfa Supports Homogeneous Transport in CSFR

AU1910112590 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 16 Oct 90 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Undivided Transport"]

[Text] Prague—"Czechoslovakia should become a point of intersection between the East and the West, the North and the South, and therefore we want transport to be the spine of the republic, i.e., reliable, punctual, and economical," Marian Calfa, premier of the CSFR Government stated at Monday's meeting with Jiri Nezval, CSFR minister of transport, and Vaclav Vanek, chairman of the Railroad Workers Trade Union. Therefore, it is necessary to preserve homogeneity in the organization and administration of transport in the framework of the federation, introduce total electrification of railroads, study the priorities in building the infrastructure, etc. As regards road transport, Marian Calfa expressed support for private truckers, and said that the present type of Czechoslovak State Automobile Transport is in a state of collapse and pointed out that market economy principles are also valid in this sector.

Single Price for Gasoline To Be Introduced

AU2210144690 Prague CTK in English 2228 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 18 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Government today decided to abolish the limit of 25 litres of gasoline per month at the previous price (all additional sales cost one-third more) and to introduce the higher price, i.e., 16 korunas for 90-octane gasoline and 18 korunas for 95-octane gasoline, as a single price as from 1 November.

The limit and price rise have been in force since 6 October in consequence of lower oil supplies from the USSR and the Gulf crisis.

The retail price of diesel and heating oil will go up as from midnight from 11 to 15 korunas.

Disabled and old persons (using oil for heating) will be compensated for the price increases.

Civic Democratic Alliance Elects New Chairman

LD2010225690 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2030 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Delegates to today's national-level conference of the Civic Democratic Alliance [ODA] in Prague decided that membership of that organization was closed to former members and candidate members of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, members of the StB [state security] or those who collaborated with it, and members of the People's Militia. The draft statutes of the alliance, which is a right-wing platform within Civic Forum, originally envisaged that the moratorium on entry to the ODA would apply only to communists who joined the party after 1970.

Today's conference proceedings went on to discuss the ODA's foreign, social, communal, nationalities and environment policy. In a secret ballot, Pavel Bratinka was elected chairman of the ODA.

CSL To Be Compensated for Loss of Minister

AU2310095390 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 19 Oct 90 pp 1,2

["(ge)"-signed report: "Radically in the Czech Government"]

[Excerpts] Prague—A piece of unequivocally good news to start with—gold extraction in the Mokrsko area will not be allowed to go ahead. It was with this announcement that Petr Pithart, premier of the Czech Republic, started his "star-studded" news conference on Thursday [18 October].

Two Czech ministries will disappear from directories on 1 January—the Czech Ministry of Engineering and Electrical Engineering and the Ministry of Construction and the Building Industry. [passage omitted] It was stressed that the abolition of the two ministries has nothing to do with the persons of the two ministers [Miroslav Gregr, without political affiliation; and Ludvik Motycka, Czechoslovak People's Party, CSL]. Anton Baudys, deputy premier of the Czech Republic, said that there are no objections to their work and that the only political aspect [of the ministries' abolition] is that the Czech Republic Government does not want to weaken the representation of the Christian and Democratic Union in the government coalition. Petr Pithart, who has already held talks with Josef Lux, chairman of the Czechoslovak People's Party, confirmed that the present coalition disequilibrium will be fully balanced out in the nearest future. [passage omitted]

Asked by LIDOVE NOVINY what he thought about the criticism leveled at him by some participants in the last Civic Forum Assembly, Premier Petr Pithart said that this criticism must on no account be belittled and that he has been comprehensively informed about it. However, he ascribes greater importance to assessments and criticisms from the Czech National Council, which is why he has agreed with the Czech National Council deputies on far more intensive contacts. Ministers Karel Dyba and Tomas Jezek, who [unlike Petr Pithart, who was in Italy] both attended the Civic Forum Assembly, both declared that criticism of the premier is often based on misunderstandings.

Civic Forum's Klaus Reacts to Adviser's Interview

LD2310123790 Prague CTK in English 0938 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 23 (CTK)—Civic Forum chairman and finance minister Vaclav Klaus has dissociated himself from views about changes in the Civic Forum and parliamentary posts as they were interpreted in an interview with his adviser Petr Havlik in MLADA FRONTA DNES on Monday.

"I have never hidden my views that the Civic Forum needs a clearly defined political line if it is to preserve the confidence of the voters and its own ability to adopt and push through stands in society. This will naturally require changes, organizational as well as personal", he said in an interview carried by newspapers today.

He added that he by no means intends to interfere in the reconstruction of the group of deputies in parliament or even the Federal Assembly presidium nor is he authorized to comment on who will chair parliamentary committees (the article indicated that they were to be removed). "These affairs will be decided by all deputies, including those who do not represent [word indistinct]" Klaus said.

Havlik, who talked to Karel Kovanda who "writes for some American newspapers", resolutely denied in MLADA FRONTA DNES today "the information, speculations and deductions" contained in the article.

Association of Hungarians in Czech Lands Analyzed

AU1910183690 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 17 Oct 90 p 2

[Interview with Tamas Csemi, leader of the Association of Hungarians in Czech Lands, by Evelyn Forro; place and date not given: "People Are Still Afraid"—first paragraph is MAGYAR HIRLAP introduction]

[Text] The Association of Hungarians in Czech Lands has been operating for nine months in the Czech area of the CSFR. Tamas Csemi informed our correspondent in Prague about past events and future plans.

[Csemi] At our founding conference on 26 February, there was a big debate about the name that we should choose for our club or association. In the end, we chose the name "Association of Hungarians in Czech Lands." Following the 1989 November revolution, we felt that it was also time for us to make our voices heard after so many decades of silence.

[Forro] What did you think your chances were? How many Hungarians live here in the Czech Lands?

[Csemi] According to official statistics, there are 23,000 of us. However, we believe that many people have mixed marriages, and there are many people who are afraid to admit that they are Hungarian. Approximately 3,000 or 4,000 Hungarians live in Prague, but Hungarians are also to be found in the West Czech Lands, around Teplice and Cheb, as well as in the district of Sokolov. These are mostly old people.

[Forro] How can old people be mobilized?

[Csemi] It is quite difficult to mobilize them, and that is our main problem. Many old people have written to say that they are happy about the creation of our association, but they do not become members, and they do not commit themselves. In fact, people are still afraid.

[Forro] Was it dangerous to be Hungarian in the Czech Lands in the years preceding the revolution?

[Csemi] The situation here is different from the one in Slovakia, and it was not dangerous for an ordinary citizen to be Hungarian. However, when student circles were formed—like the Ady Endre student circle [named after a famous Hungarian writer]—then it became dangerous. Incidentally, this has been going on since 1957.

[Forro] Was the Ady Endre student circle considered to be an enemy of the regime?

[Csemi] The leadership of the circle was considered to be an enemy of the regime, because it organized programs that the party state looked unfavorably upon. For example, the leadership invited the historian Peter Nagy Puspoki and the environmentalist Janos Vargha from Hungary.

[Forro] Did these invitations have any consequences?

[Csemi] There were negotiations.

[Forro] In other words, you were summoned?

[Csemi] I was not summoned, but some of my colleagues were summoned.

[Forro] Were they summoned by the police?

[Csemi] Well, yes, they were.

[Forro] Let us come back to the question of your association. What are your aims?

[Csemi] We want to operate as a cultural association, we do not want to interfere in power politics, and we do not want to become a party tool. Our aim is to make Hungarians in the Czech Lands wake up to their Hungarian consciousness. At the moment, we have 200 members, and most of them come from Prague. Our main concern is that we have no financial backing. Membership fees are 100 korunas per year.

[Forro] What programs do you organize?

[Csemi] We organized an introductory meeting where some musicians from the Csallo community played for us. We have organized Hungarian teaching for the children of Hungarians living here. As of November, there will be a monthly lecture about correct Hungarian language usage. We also plan a publication. We have had negotiations with the Czech prime minister, and Mr. Pithart has promised to help us.

[Forro] Did you use your "connection," namely that one of the advisers to the Czech prime minister is Viktoria Hradska, the daughter of the founder of the Czech-Hungarian unabridged dictionary?

[Csemi] Yes, and I hope that we will receive backing, like the other associations.

[Forro] What links do you have with the organizations of Hungarians in Czechoslovakia?

[Csemi] We have good relations, particularly with Csemadok. We also have links with the World Association of Hungarians, and we would like to become a member of that association.

Czech, Slovak Premiers Questioned on Each Other

AU2310092490 Bratislava SMENA in Slovak 18 Oct 90 pp 1, 3

[Report on interview with Czech Premier Petr Pithart and Slovak Premier Vladimir Meciar by Tibor Buchta in Prague and Bratislava, respectively; date not given: "Newton and Napoleon"; first paragraph is SMENA introduction]

[Text] We asked both republic premiers the same questions. They answered independently, without any knowledge of their counterpart's reaction. We met the Czech premier in Prague, and the Slovak premier in Bratislava. They were given an opportunity to choose whether to begin with the easy questions or with the more demanding ones. Mr. Pithart asked for easy ones, Mr. Meciar reacted thusly: "Choose whatever you want." Hence, we begin with the easy ones. [passage omitted]

[Buchta] Were either of you ever in a situation in which the other person was, so to speak, getting on your nerves?

[Pithart] From the very beginning, there has actually been one problem between us, as well as between the Czech and the Slovak representation in general: speed. I dare say that we understand the Slovak Government's initiative. I am personally convinced that we understand the Slovak nature of these motives and initiatives. Viewed objectively, however, it is precisely the Slovak emphasis on doing things quickly that creates an obstacle which cannot be surmounted. At the same time, I, personally, can understand why Mr. Meciar is rushing things, and can still hold a different opinion. Hence, if we have ever been in conflict, it was while choosing the pace of changes.

[Meciar] Precisely such a situation as you ask about has never occurred. I hold Mr. Pithart in a high esteem even if he is against a particular issue. He thereby forces me to work with the greatest possible exertion of strength by means of logic, argumentation, and peaceful deliberation—namely, he defends his opinion until it is clearly demonstrated to be correct or incorrect. If it is correct, then he insists on his opinion. [passage omitted]

[Buchta] Let me rephrase an old riddle. What is heavier, a pound of gold or a pound of gasoline? Can an activity of national governments cause a change for the better?

[Pithart] Gasoline is more precious than gold. At this time, the governments cannot help much. The crisis teams consist of three partners, not of two. The first or, if you wish, the third is a federal member and he still has the decisive vote.

[Meciar] One can get several pounds of gas for a pound of gold. I think that the activity of national governments can form several mutually complementing business systems. We can form various supplier-consumer systems. The Federal Government must work at the same level as the republican ones. Particularly today, when goods are traded for goods, a lot can be undertaken and achieved precisely by the republics. They must, however, coordinate the entire exchange of goods.

[Buchta] Mr. Meciar sighed after the Piestany meeting [of representatives of all three governments]: "People do not feel like working the way they did at the beginning of 1968. The production goes with the wind." What can be done about that?

[Pithart] Nothing. People just feel like working to the extent that they can work well in their own interest. As long as conducive conditions do not exitst, one cannot be surprised at the attitude and conduct of the people.

[Meciar] Thus far, we have not found the elements that would encourage people to other activities. That is one problem. Another is that even if people reacted positively to rapid changes for the better, we cannot provide them as yet. Nevertheless, if someone asks me whether and when better times will come, I say: Be thankful that it is not much worse. I believe, however, that the consciousness of Slovaks began to form—not only in the national and social sense, but also in the economic one, in the feeling of appurtenance.

[Buchta] In closing I offer one more idea of V. Meciar: "The greatest catastrophe is a dim-witted Slovak in Prague. We still have them there." One should do something about it!

[Pithart] I am not giving up on an idea which might seem absurd: I really believe that some central offices should be located in Bratislava. Otherwise what you mentioned cannot be prevented. Only a few people are willing to severe all ties and move for several years to the capitol of the other nation. [passage omitted]

[Meciar] I still insist that what I said is true. You know well that people from Slovakia have not always liked to go to Bohemia. Often the "choice" was made according to who was at all willing to go. [passage omitted] In the future, abilities will decide. [passage omitted].

Meciar Expresses Views on Several Issues

AU2010161890 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 17 Oct 90 p 13

[Report on answers given by Vladimir Meciar, premier of the Slovak Republic, to participants in an international conference of journalists in Modra near Bratislava on 12 and 13 October: "Telegraphically About That Which Matters; V. Meciar's Four-Hour Marathon"—reprinted from Bratislava PRACA in Slovak No. 242]

[Text] PRACA No. 242 carried a telegraphic synopsis of Slovak Premier V. Meciar's views on the most important problems. They were selected from a four-hour marathon question-and-answer session with the premier at an international "East-West" conference of journalists held in the Harmonia building [owned by Czechoslovak journalists in Modra near Bratislava].

Wages: To prevent hyperinflation, we are trying to curb the growth of wage demands, including justified ones. Teachers, the medical personnel, pensioners, they all have to get more.... But we have no funds. Our policy will be to prevent the poorest ones from starving. You cannot take two steps at once when you are over an abyss.

Employment policy: If 18 percent of the people left our factories, no one in production would notice it. This is the layer of artificially employed people. At the same time it hampers technical development because it makes labor cheap and keeps labor discipline low. The question for the government is whether to proceed radically and throw all these people on the labor market at once or whether to lay them off gradually.

Nationality problems: The situation [in nationality relations] will be good when we divide people into good and bad people and not into Slovaks and Hungarians. Each instance of national unrest lowers the appetite to invest here.

The enactment of the Slovak language: The language has become the subject of a political struggle. The version of the law as a law against the Hungarians is unacceptable [sentence as published]. Equally unacceptable is the version proposed by the Hungarian minority—according to this version, we should start learning Hungarian. The language law must be passed for otherwise the tension will not subside. It is unfortunate that the issue has been raised precisely at this time.

Mohorita case: Everything bad is good for something. I regard his statements [about an end to the period of national consensus] as politically unacceptable and as his private Waterloo. He had to make it plain to a certain faction that "we are still here." There is a certain very aggressive and discredited group of people with whom society has had very bad experience. If Mohorita wants political struggle, let him have it. I do not believe, however, that we should take the path of banning the Communist Party.

Demikat case: I know more about his activity than many people in Slovakia. The order on his admission to the National Security Corps carries my signature. I know how much he has done for the process of democratization. The public would change its attitude if it were possible to say everything. I am afraid that I cannot tell you more.

About Prague and [presidential spokesman] Mr. Zantovsky: Mr. Zantovsky sent me a personal letter in which he explained the circumstances of his coming out against me and he begged me not to make them public. All the more so would it have been his moral duty to explain that this was not his decision but the decision of a certain group. They showed me the Czech press. I am lucky that my mother did not read it. She would be surprised about whom she has in the family.... This was not the first and only attack on myself. They think that we can be pushed into the federation....

Conscience and dilemmas: A person can serve but he must not prostitute himself. The hardest compromise to make is one with one's own conscience. You must constantly feel the 5.3 million people behind your back. It is not easy to sleep with that awareness but it is even more difficult to get up with it. That is my dilemma.

Meciar Attack on Interior Minister 'Absurd'

LD2210213390 Prague CTK in English 1830 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bratislava Oct 22 (CTK)—Slovak Interior Minister Anton Andras said today that Premier Vladimir Meciar displayed his own incompetence by branding him as incompetent without any grounds, and thus showed he is isolated from political developments in Slovakia.

It is absurd for the premier to attack the top representative of a key ministry in his government in such a way, Andras told a press conference in response to Meciar's call for his resignation in a regular TV address on Sunday.

Slovak Deputy Premier and Chairman of the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH) Jan Carnogursky conveyed at a press conference the movement's position according to which the premier's behaviour was thoughtless and politically harmful. The interior minister was proposed by KDH on the basis of coalition talks as a man of integrity with a firm character and expert qualification.

Minister Andras pointed out the failure to settle personnel changes in high posts as the most serious mistake made by Vladimir Meciar in his capacity of interior minister.

Slovak Premier Valdimir Meciar, who came to the press conference, said that if Anton Andras stays in the government as interior minister, he himself would not be premier.

This was Meciar's answer to the question whether he would insist on the interior minister's resignation even if it threatened the government coalition.

Meciar said that after objections to Minister Andras' work earlier, he had been told by the KDH Chairman Jan Carnogursky that it is not the premier's job to control the ministers and that the minister is not accountable for his work to the premier but to the KDH leadership.

Furthermore, Meciar said he was told by Carnogursky that as a former communist he had the same quality as the present communists, which he considered an expression of mistrust and offered his resignation.

Slovak Citizens Concerned With Signs of Tension

AU2010163390 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 17 Oct 90 p 3

[Igor Cibula commentary: "The Government's Fateful Burden? What Impedes the Dynamism of Meciar's Cabinet?"]

[Text] The Slovak Government coalition has survived its obligatory 100 days. Most assessments of this period of the Meciar cabinet's existence are more indulgent than the assessments of Calfa's government, which has until now had to shoulder the brunt of the drastic decisions made within the radical economic reform. The overwhelming part of the [Slovak] public supports Meciar's government mainly because it has vehemently raised the restoration of the Slovak Republic's sovereignty within the framework of the Czechoslovak federation as a key political problem. It is in this context that the voters understand all other steps being taken by the government in the process of the implementation of its program.

It is precisely for this reason that citizens are concerned over the signals that tension between the main coalition partners—the Public Against Violence [VPN] movement and the Christian Democratic Movement [KDH]—sometimes impedes the dynamism of the cabinet. Premier Meciar hinted at this state of relations within the coalition in his speech at the last VPN Assembly. First Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky has not displayed so much candor but, nonetheless, in his recent interview with the daily, SMENA, he admitted that ideological differences between the VPN and the KDH persist. Although the statement of this fact alone does not allow such an interpretation, together with some press reports it does confirm information from the lobbies that the aforesaid ideological differences exceed the usual framework and affect even practical policy.

Observers have established a connection between the dissonance in Meciar's government and the latest attempts by journalists to call in question the work of Anton Andras as minister of interior of the Slovak Republic, a post to which he was appointed at the recommendation of the KDH. Particularly the criticism leveled at him in the Monday [15 October] issue of Bratislava VECERNIK bears out that his further fate in the government is becoming a public affair. The repeated raising of doubts about his professional qualifications for the post of the minister of interior provides the main coalition partners with an opportunity to search for solutions that would eliminate one of the main sources of tension in mutual relations. If, however, the journalistic attacks are unsubstantiated, then the relevant political authorities should respond to them.

In states with established democratic systems of government, differences between coalition partners do not result in government crises, and do not paralyze the cabinet, on the condition that the partners remain loyal to the agreed coalition platform. Looked at from this angle, even the dispute over the minister of interior vented by journalists should not be a permanent cause of disagreements that could become a fateful burden for the Slovak Government.

Slovakia Communist Party Elects Weiss Chairman

LD2110124290 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1100 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] The Congress of the Communist Party of Slovakia [CPSL] in Presov has elected Peter Weiss chairman. This election indicates that the party's reformist progresssive wing prevails by a small margin, but the nature of the party's future will only be decided when the party's name is changed.

Speaking at a news conference this morning, Peter Weiss conceded that those who do not agree with the new orientation will probably form a party of their own. As the congress proceedings showed, membership in the CPSL is still declining, and its only way forward is to open itself up further to the public.

More on Weiss Election; Mohorita Comments

LD2110221990 Prague CTK in English 1906 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Bratislava Oct 21 (CTK)—Peter Weiss was re-elected Slovak Communist Party chairman at the party congress in Presov, East Slovakia, last night.

Weiss was elected by 206 delegates while his rival Pavol Kanis received 195 votes. Weiss' re-election is seen as a close victory of the reform forces over centrists and those opposed to changes within the party.

Weiss said after his re-election that the differentiation process within the party would continue and it is not ruled out that those opposed to the party's new orientation will form a party of their own.

Referring to the planned expropriation of the party's property without compensation, Weiss said he hoped the issue would be settled not by repressive methods but through a sensible agreement.

Vasil Mohorita, the Czechoslovak Communist Party first secretary, said in his address at the congress that "we have made clear the stand of our party, reproached for being illegible, when we refused to agree with ideas of having more than 1.5 million jobless people, when we refused to agree to inflation triggered by the devaluation of the crown, which will hit mainly young people not owning anything. We also expressed it by rejecting the undemocratic blueprint for privatization, by opposing methods of economic reform that would result in social upheavals and instability and will affect both our country and integration and cooperation in Europe."

"The question is whether this method of economic reform is compatible with the degree of democracy, still recently called for by its architects. It has become clear that it is not enough for national understanding, for consensus, to just call the government like this. Important are real steps, real policy. The present government is resolved to carry through its project of future Czechoslovakia at any price, and those who might perhaps dislike its impact do not probably belong into the sphere of its interests. Quite evidently this applies to the ordinary working people who will be unable to influence the government's decision in any way," Mohorita said.

In the debate at the Slovak Communist Party Congress in Presov today, party chairman Peter Weiss informed delegates of his Thursday's meeting with Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel, which was attended also by Chairman of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia Jiri Svoboda.

The two communist leaders pointed out the fact that evident attacks on the Czechoslovak Communist Party have been escalating in the tense political situation in the country, and that the party was literally "being driven into a corner" in the Czech Republic. They said this was slowing down the party's transformation but at the same time activated certain militant groups inside the party, and added that there are fears of a possible atmosphere of social revenge and of a latent "cold civil war". President Havel confirmed these fears existed but said that a certain degree of anti-communism was natural in view of what happened in the past. He said he himself was no advocate of the deteriorating situation and confrontation, Weiss said.

After a one-hour debate concerning the new name of the Slovak Communist Party, the majority of the delegates approved the name "Communist Party of Slovakia-Democratic Left Party".

A resolution said this name was temporary and empowered the party Central Committee to decide about a possible change (leaving out the first part of the name) by a minimum three-fifth majority vote.

Slovak Government Pushes for Power-Sharing

LD2310161590 Prague CTK in English 1451 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Bratislava Oct 23 (CTK)—The Slovak cabinet today discussed further procedure in the division of powers between the governments of the two constituent republics and the federal state and approved relevant draft amendments to the constitutional law.

It authorized Premier Meciar and other members of the cabinet to debate the drafts with the Czech and Federal Governments and amend the constitutional law on the basis of the discussion. These members have left for Prague after the session.

The draft is based on the stand that the sovereignty of the two constituent republics is original and the sovereignty of the federation is derived from it. The extent of the federation's authority is determined by the extent of affairs entrusted to it by the republics. The draft significantly changes the extent of the spheres under federal authority, defining it mainly as the forming of strategy and basic legislation. It says that the republics must have full responsibility for their economic and social development.

In the economy, the federation is to create the principles of the functioning of a single market. It provides for a single foreign policy but gives a limited authority to the republics (Czech, the larger of the two, and Slovak) to enter into external contacts.

It provides for the office of state secretaries at the federal ministries to prevent one-sided decision making (if the minister is Czech, the secretary is to be Slovak and vice versa).

The Federal and the Czech Governments planned the question of the division of powers within the federation to be settled during talks on the constitutions of the two constituent republics and the federation, which are to be ready by the end of the two-year election term, i.e. before June 1992. However, at the meeting of the Czech and Slovak premiers with two federal deputy premiers at Trencianske Teplice on August 8-9, the Slovak Government demanded that the issue of the division of the powers between the two republics and the federation be settled by the end of this year. Several commissions had been set up to work out the details of the issue.

Referring to this question, President Vaclav Havel stressed in the parliament on September 17 the need for an authentic federation and pointed out the impatience of Slovaks on this question, which he said was called forth by "previous bitter experiences."

Democratic Party Supports Slovak Coalition

LD2310164990 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1100 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The Democratic Party is the third partner in the government coalition. The party itself recently overcame its own internal crisis. Therefore, what is their attitude to the situation which is also in danger of becoming a crisis, albeit this time a government one? Dr. Peter Misik, general secretary of the Democratic Party, has this to say:

[Begin Misik recording] The Democratic Party regards the present political situation as serious. This is why the Democratic Party leadership has adopted a stand on the problem, which I would like to state here:

The Democratic Party is a firm link in the government coalition. It supports Premier Vladimir Meciar, who personifies the national policy of the Slovak government. We fully back the prime minister and believe that it is within his powers to influence personnel changes in the government while respecting the present division of ministries in the sense of the coalition agreements concluded previously. We assert that provoking any divisions in the government and weaking the prime minister's position harms the Slovak cause, the cause of the economic transformation of our society into a strong Slovakia within the framework of an authentic federation. [end recording]

Christian Democrat's Carnogursky on Elections

AU2310102690 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 18 Oct 90 p 6

[Interview with Dr. Jan Carnogursky, chairman of the Christian Democratic Movement in Slovakia, by unidentified NARODNA OBRODA correspondent; place and date not given: "Slovak Political Stage Prior to the Elections; Dr. Jan Carnogursky"]

[Text] [NARODNA OBRODA] What kind of lesson did your party learn from the first free parliamentary elections?

[Carnogursky] We have learned that the electoral campaign for free parliamentary elections is conducted according to different rules than the semi-legal or illegal activity in the conditions of the communist regime. We learned that we have to present our materially correct policy to citizens in a more accessible manner. The elections demonstrated that the national policy issue is very acute in Slovakia. We managed to attract citizens with ideas of an application of the Christian ethical standards to social life. We have not managed, however, to attract very many citizens without a definite view on society. It was an unpleasant surprise to learn that our comments are being distorted and used against us.

[NARODNA OBRODA] What do you want to achieve in the local elections, and how do you intend to influence life in the villages and cities following the election?

[Carnogursky] Our goal is to get local authorities to the local self-governing bodies and we will be glad if many of them will acknowledge their adherence to our movement. Our ranks contain hardworking people full of ideas on how they would like to improve their present lifestyles. Our deputies will try to make villages and cities comfortable for their inhabitants. They will attempt to bring the administration as close to the people as possible. They will fulfill their electoral programs and they will transform the contact between the local and municipal authorities and local citizens into a permanent dialogue.

[NARODNA OBRODA] Some citizens are disgusted with the substantial lack of political culture by some parties and deputies, and with their politicking at the expense of dealing with some more important issues. Can you contribute to the advancement of political culture in the operation of your party in such a way that it would show prior to the local elections?

[Carnogursky] The political culture of our deputies already showed itself during their activities in the Slovak National Council and the Federal Assembly. Television viewers watching the broadcast from the sessions of these legislative bodies could see that our deputies act in a cultural manner, always to the point, and even polite toward their adversaries. Unfortunately, scandals usually attract more attention than a constructive and realistic program. Political culture is permanently present in our movement and not only before the local or parliamentary elections. The political culture of our movement is also demonstrated by our acting as a unifying rather than a polarizing factor in society.

SNS Leader on Aims, Minority Rights

AU2310085590 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 19 Oct 90 p 5

[Interview with Jozef Horsky, deputy chairman of the Slovak National Party, by Istvan Boros in Bratislava; date not given: "We Are Patriots"; first two paragraphs are MAGYAR NEMZET introduction]

[Excerpts] During our visit to Bratislava, we discussed with members and followers of various Hungarian organizations the situation in Slovakia and the life of Hungarians in this area, and everyone said that the Slovak National Party [SNS] was a right-wing nationalist organization with extremist views, particularly concerning the party's language-bill concept according to which the Slovak language should be the only official language in Slovakia.

Understandably, our interest focused on this party and we wanted to get first-hand information about it. We met with Jozef Horsky in the headquarters of his party. This interview was prepared with the obligatory objectivity, and therefore, we publish it without any changes. [passage omitted]

[Boros] Does your party follow a national-Christian ideology, or is it a populist organization? What are your main goals?

[Horsky] Slovak independence, achieving the sovereignty of the Slovak state; in other words, the establishment of an independent state.

[Boros] Are these goals realistic?

[Horsky] If we consider the fact that there are 5 million people in Slovakia and that our party accepted the Helsinki documents, including the right of every nation to independence and self-determination, this means for us that the current situation in Slovakia is abnormal. [passage omitted]

[Boros] An independent Slovakia would be a totally new state formation?

[Horsky] Yes, it would be an independent and sovereign state which would endeavor to establish good-neighborly relations with Hungary, Poland, and the Czech lands.

This is all the more necessary because current Slovak-Hungarian relations are not natural. The current relations were artificially created as such.

[Boros] Please, give us an example.

[Horsky] In Hungary, simple people who do not live in Budapest think well of Slovakia and the Slovak nation.

[Boros] What about those who live in Budapest?

[Horsky] This force primarily thinks of a Great-Hungary. In itself, this is not something that should be condemned by all means, but these ideas elicit a negative approach in the neighboring countries. We have concrete information that, in view of these ideas, there are people among the Hungarian population of Southern Slovakia who are responsible for inciting the Hungarians on a nationalist basis and possibly encouraging them to seek autonomy, or secession. This would be all right if the proportion of Hungarians in this area were 90 percent, but they only make up 50 percent of the population.

[Boros] Do you have any proof of all this. Have you found any reference to this in Hungarian foreign policy or in the documents of responsible Hungarian organizations?

[Horsky] We have proof that Charter 77 received funds from U.S. sources, from Hungarians living in the United States. Therefore, we cannot disregard the possibility that we are talking here about a Czech and Hungarian cooperation against Slovakia with the aim of breaking Slovakia up and dividing it between the Czech lands and Hungary. [passage omitted]

[Boros] To what extent do you regard the Hungarian threat as realistic?

[Horsky] We do not regard it as realistic, but we cannot disregard the fact that most of the Slovaks are afraid of this. [passage omitted]

[Boros] Slovaks and Hungarians must live together here and nobody would benefit if emotions broke loose. Marching toward Europe, the majority should tolerate the minority!

[Horsky] Both the Hungarians and the Slovaks are demanding their own rights. You must also be aware of the fact that the Hungarians living here have many more rights than the Slovaks. Hungarian children learn Hungarian history in Hungarian schools, whereas Slovak children learn Czech history in Slovak schools. The Hungarian language is the official language in Hungary. If we compare the conditions of Hungarians living in Slovakia with the conditions of Slovaks living in Hungary, the Hungarians here have much better conditions than the Slovaks in Hungary. [passage omitted]

Toth on Importance of Slovak-Hungarian Elections

LD2210214590 Prague CTK in English 1811 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bratislava Oct 22 (CTK)—The Hungarian Independent Initiative (MNI) believes that the political orientation of the candidates for the November local elections is important particularly in parts of Slovakia with a mixed Slovak-Hungarian population, chairman of MNI Karoly Toth said today.

Toth told CTK that by creating election coalitions with the Public Against violence (VPN), the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH), the Democratic Party, and also with the Hungarian Christian Democratic Movement "we seek to avoid a situation that arose before the June parliamentary election when most voters cast their votes according to the nationality of the candidates and not their personal qualities and political program."

The Hungarian minority in Czechoslovakia totals 580,000, about four per cent of the 15 million-strong population of Czechoslovakia and 11 per cent of Slovakia's population of six million. The Hungarian Independent Initiative, founded in South Slovakia on November 18, 1989, took part in the June parliamentary elections in coalition with the VPN and won one seat of Slovak deputy premier, six seats in the Slovak Parliament and four in the Federal Parliament.

Hungarian Movement Head Criticizes Language Law

AU2310092990 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 19 Oct 90 p 2

[Interview with Miklos Duray, head of the CSFR Coexistence Movement, by Evelyn Forro; in Prague, date not given: "Interviews on the Slovak Language Law—Long Way From the Spirit of Europe"—first paragraph is MAGYAR HIRLAP introduction]

[Text] The Slovak Government coalition's proposal for a language bill to be discussed in the Slovak parliament next week is unacceptable for Miklos Duray. In our issue of 18 October, Sandor Varga, representative of the Independent Hungarian Initiative, spoke about his position on this matter. Today we publish Miklos Duray's position.

[Duray] This is a new proposal formulated this week and it is full of compromises. Personally, I regard this proposal as unacceptable because, if adopted, the bill would legalize the virtual exclusiveness of the Slovak language. The bill gives a single opportunity for the use of the minority language, and only conditionally: Hungarian could be used in offices only in places where the proportion of national minorities reached 20 percent of the population. In addition, the bill also contains a so-called limiting formulation that absolutely bans the use of the Hungarian language by Slovaks. I regard this language bill as something that is a long way from the spirit of

Europe, because it is worth knowing that, with the exception of France, language laws emerged in order to preserve the tongue of national minorities and not to defend the language of the majority.

[Forro] The political atmosphere in Slovakia shows that the government will probably give in to the masses and will not favor the national minorities.

[Duray] This is a fact, and this is true not only with this language bill. Unfortunately, national minority politicians do not have a lot of means at their disposal. Even those who represent the Hungarians in the government coalition are unable to confront this language bill. I would like to mention here that, when it decided on the national minority bill in 1868, the Hungarian National Assembly legislated a law that is much more democratic than this language bill to be adopted more than 100 years later, and the national minorities in the historical Hungary did not accept that law formulated in a democratic spirit. They demonstrated against the law on the streets. In my opinion, this language bill deserves demonstrations three times as much.

[Forro] Do you see any faint hope that the Slovak parliament would eventually adopt a language law with more rights for the national minorities?

[Duray] I am skeptical.

57 Czechoslovak Citizens Still in Iraq

AU2210193990

[Editorial Report] Prague PRACE in Czech on 19 October on page 2 carries a 600-word interview with Engineer Lubor Vitacek, commercial director of the Technoexport joint-stock company, by Magdalena Nadovicova entitled "Our People Do Not Starve." The interview, the place and date of which are not given, deals with a recent Czechoslovak mission to Iraq, which obtained the promise that most of the 33 Czechoslovak specialists working on the construction of the Daura petrochemical plant will be allowed to return home by mid-November. As Vitacek mentions, only six members of the Czechoslovak group will stay in Daura after that date.

Asked about the Czechoslovaks' access to food, Vitacek says that in June and July Technoexport sent two trucks with durable food to Iraq and that, because of the reduction in the number of Czechoslovak workers in Daura, these supplies should last until Christmas.

Asked about the total number of Czechoslovak citizens in Iraq, Vitacek says that 57 Czechoslovak citizens are in Iraq at present, three of them women, most of whom had been sent there by Technoexport. Speaking about the future of Technoexport's participation in the construction of the Daura plant, Vitacek says that the contract. which is worth 95 million dollars, has not been canceled but only frozen and that "everything depends on the normalization of the situation in Iraq."

Assembly Supports Sending Volunteer Unit to Gulf

LD2310132990 Prague CTK in English 1222 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 23 (CTK)—The Federal Assembly (parliament) today approved a resolution supporting the decision of President Vaclav Havel to send a Czechoslovak anti-chemical unit of 179 volunteers to the Middle East.

In contrast to the presidential draft, deputies said in the debate that the contingent cannot be regarded as humanitarian aid. They said that the decision proper must be a matter of parliament because Czechoslovakia does not have a presidential regime. The joint meeting of the two parliamentary chambers was then adjourned until tomorrow because the bill on "Small Privatisation", involving shops, workshops and services, has not yet been finalized and will continue to be discussed by the legal committees this afternoon.

Last Soviet Helicopters Leave 22 Oct

LD2210175590 Prague CTK in English 1631 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bratislava Oct 22 (CTK)—The remaining 59 Soviet combat helicopters MI-24 and MI-8 took off from the Sliac airport in central Slovakia today, thus ending definitively the 'temporary' deployment of Soviet Air Force on Slovak territory.

The withdrawal of Soviet helicopters was monitored by a parliamentary commission and deputies to the defence and security committees of the Federal Assembly (parliament) and the Slovak National Council (Slovak parliament).

The withdrawal of Soviet troops is being carried out in harmony with an agreement signed in Moscow on February 26-27, 1990. 78 per cent of Soviet tanks, 66 per cent of armoured vehicles, 79 per cent of artillery technique, 81 per cent of planes, 58 per cent of soldiers and 53 per cent of civilians have left Czechoslovakia by October 18. By the middle of 1991 the withdrawal should be completed.

Dienstbier To Assess USSR Troop Damage

LD2310052190 Prague CTK in English 1925 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 22 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak cabinet today approved two economic laws and appointed Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier head of a delegation for talks of experts, which will collect material about the volume of damage caused to Czechoslovakia by the stay and withdrawal of Soviet troops.

The cabinet approved a draft amendment to the customs act, aimed at protecting the country's interests against illegal transfers of goods across the borders.

Explaining the draft amendment, Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Jiri Brabec stated that the customs must contribute towards the movement of goods as 2,000 new companies started foreign trade activities after the monopoly of foreign trade corporations was abolished, but they must also ensure necessary filing and protect the country's economic interests. He said there has been a considerable increase in illegal transfers of goods and therefore measures against smuggling were necessary. The draft amendment introduces free customs zones in which customs inspection would be exceptional but provides for high financial fines if dutiable goods are concealed.

The cabinet also approved a draft amendment to the law on private business, applying to the production of private farmers.

A debate on a bill on bonds and a bill on land will be on the agenda of the cabinet meeting on Thursday.

Czech Minister Gregr on Moscow Trade Talks

AU1910191290 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 18 Oct 90 pp 1, 7

[CTK Moscow dispatch: "10,000 Cars for Oil; Minister Gregr on His Talks in the USSR"]

[Text] Moscow— The Moscow talks concerned mainly goods which Czechoslovakia offers to sell to the USSR in exchange for Soviet oil, M. Gregr, Czech Republic minister of engineering and the electrotechnical industry, said on Wednesday at the close of his talks.

As he emphasized, the CSFR is ready to deliver to the Soviet market before the end of this year 10,000 Skoda-Favorit passenger cars in exchange for oil. The problems besetting the sales of some traditional Czechoslovak export articles, such as electric and diesel locomotives, caused by the Soviet side's impaired solvency, can be solved, according to Gregr, by means of production sharing and deliveries of assembly modules. Similar prospects are in the offing in the aircraft industry where the interest in Czechoslovak training jets has declined. The shortfalls could be offset through cooperation in the production of transport aircraft.

Czechoslovakia could export to the USSR an unlimited amount of electric motors of all types and the reorientation of some Czechoslovak enterprises toward this production will probably be inevitable, the Czech minister said. There is an immense interest in [Czechoslovak] motorcycles and bicycles. There are good prospects for the export of textile machinery, telecommunication equipment, and also rolling mills. In his account of deliveries of assembly modules, Minister Gregr also mentioned 150,000 carburetors for Moskvich passenger cars.

Sudeten German Property Will Not Be Returned

AU2310084090 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 16 Oct 90 pp 1, 8

[Report on interview with Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials Vaclav Jandura and Vaclav Rozboud by Marcela Doleckova; place and date not given: "It Is Possible To Privatize in the Sudeten"]

[Text] One of the byproducts of the planned small privatization is also the revival of interest in the Sudeten: Readers who are turning to us can hardly suppress their anxiety that the repatriated Germans, or their offspring, are getting ready to return and take over their property confiscated by presidential decree in 1945.

Also the September visit by the representatives of the Association of Sudeten German Landsmannschaft, who delivered a letter to President Havel, added fuel to the fire. Even though the letter proved to be basically nothing more than a call for discussion, as we reported in HOSPODARSKE NOVINY on 11 September, the anxiety remained. This is why we turned to the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where we spoke about the Sudeten property with Engineer Vaclav Jandura and Engineer Vaclav Rozboud.

In January this year, the government assigned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance the task of elaborating background material for talks about unsettled legal and property issues with the German side. Based on this government decision, a note was drafted in June proposing to open talks between the CSFR and the FRG on the level of experts. The German side has not reacted to this note, not even after polite reminders, yet it delivered an acceptable excuse: There was no time because of the commotion around the reunification of Germany.

Yet even without a German response, some facts can be cited which hold true regardless of any negotiations that may be held in the future: In 1945 a commission on reparation payments met in Paris and dealt with German reparation payments. Despite the fact that some confusion remains to this very day about their amount and about who the beneficiary of these payments by defeated Germany should be, the Paris commission unequivocally confirmed Czechoslovakia's claim to dispose of the property confiscated from the repatriated Germans because they had their share in Czechoslovakia's break up.

Moreover, the Federal Government in Bonn, on the basis of FRG laws, indemnified the repatriated individuals who live (or lived) on the territory of the then Federal Republic of Germany. This means that Sudeten Germans, who landed in the then Federal Republic of Germany, have already been compensated for the confiscated property and cannot therefore claim compensation again, albeit in another country.

On the other hand, if we want to enter Europe—by this entry we do not mean only economic ties with the EEC, but also our moral integration into democratic countries—we must do so with clean hands and clean conscience. This applies also to—and maybe primarily to—relations with our big neighbor, Germany. This is why a new treaty on mutual relations is being prepared. According to the opinion of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we cannot realistically expect that we could claim reparation payments, if for no other reason than because we would, in fact, have to negotiate with the war allies. The Sudeten property is a different question, however. In order to show its good will, Czechoslovakia is willing to hold talks about this property as well. We must emphasize, however, that such talks would be held only under the auspices of the governments. We cannot rule out, at least theoretically, that Berlin could raise the demand that we pay for the compensations that Bonn had paid to the repatriated persons.

Not even this alternative, however, allows for talks about the return of physical persons or about their claims for the restitution of specific property to them. That is, when the small or big privatization is implemented on the Sudeten territory, Czechoslovak citizens can strive without fear to acquire even property which had been confiscated from Germans a long time ago. Judging by the statements of the Sudeten German Landsmannschaft, it is more than clear that their standpoints on this principal aspect are the same. This is illustrated also by the words of Franz Neubauer, spokesman for the Landsmannschaft. He stated that they do not seek any solution that would be not approved by both sides.

German PDS Voices Support for Communist Party

LD2210213790 Prague CTK in English 1822 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 22 (CTK)—The basic right to the existence of a democratic left party striving for revival, which has a strong voters' potential in Czechoslovakia, must not be restricted, representatives of the German Democratic Socialism Party (PDS), successors of GDR communists, said in their letter sent to the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

PDS members voiced support for the Czechoslovak communists and said that the exclusion of democratic left parties from the opposition would harm the unification and democratization in Europe.

Army Officers Attend Bundeswehr Academy

AU2310161290 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 19 Oct 90 p 4

[Text] Two staff officers from the Czechoslovak Armed Forces began studying economic sciences and organization at the Bundeswehr Academy in Munich-Neubiberg at the start of the current winter semester.

Havel Receives 'East-West' Meeting Representatives

LD2310081190 Prague CTK in English 1904 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 22 (CTK)—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel received here today representatives of the European congress on the role of management "East-West meeting" which will be held here on October 22-25 under his auspices. Jacques Delors, president of the European Communities, will be honorary chairman of the meeting.

Representatives of the World Council of Management (Cecios), the organizer of the meeting, handed over to President Havel a memorial document and a gold medal "Prague 1924-1990."

The Czechoslovak president received here today also Tomas Bata, the largest world footwear producer of Czech origin, for a friendly talk.

Radio, TV Official on European Broadcasting Union

LD2210181590 Prague CTK in English 1606 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 22 (CTK)—The Prague-based International Radio and Television Organization (OIRT), whose members are especially the former socialist countries, is ready to create such prerequisites that the OIRT and the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) can merge, OIRT General Secretary Gennadij Codr has told CTK.

He added that both unions agree this might happen within three to five years whilst certain activities will overlap already before. Under discussion is OIRT's participation in the EBU's programs such as Eurosport, Euronews, Euromusic, etc. The EBU will help train OIRT specialists. Last July the EBU general assembly approved changes in its statutes enabling the East European countries to become its associate members. So far, Czechoslovak, Polish and Hungarian radio and television have been admitted. The OIRT board will deal with prerequisites for the establishment of a single European radio and television union at its session in Bratislava in mid-November.

Mr. Codr pointed out that the cardinal changes in Eastern Europe have removed causes which resulted in a split of the International Radio and Television Union (OIR) in the cold war period 40 years ago. The OIRT and EBU and, in their framework Intervision and Eurovision, have maintained, however, correct professional contacts in the sphere of technology as well as in program exchanges in the past, he stated. In the past five years a number of West European televisions and radios have been gained association status with the OIRT, for example ARD and ZDF (FRG), ORF (Austria), RAI (Italy) and OFRT (France).

Mr. Codr went on to say that, with regard to the fact that the OIRT is not only a European regional organization but that it has members in Asia and Latin America as well, it will be necessary for them to become active members of their regional radio and television unions in the transitional period. After the setting up of one all-European union only European organizations will become its members and the OIRT members outside Europe will have association status.

Foreign Minister's Book on Europe Published

AU2210143990 Prague CTK in English 2245 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 18 (CTK)—"Dreaming About Europe," a book by Czechoslovak Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier, has just been issued by the LIDOVE NOVINY Publishers.

The book contains Jiri Dienstbier's notions of the future of Europe as he formulated them five years ago. Already in 1985, he was convinced that unification of Germany is not a matter of Germany or Europe alone, but a global one connected with the overall detente in East-West relations.

Jiri Dienstbier was born in 1937. After studies at the philosophical faculty of Prague's Charles University, he worked as a journalist and correspondent of Czechoslovak Radio. He signed the civil rights document Charter 77 —a spokesman of which he was in 1979 and 1985. He was also a leading representative of the Committee for the Protection of Unjustly Persecuted (VONS). In 1979 Jiri Dienstbier was jailed for three years for alleged subversion of the republic.

In the 9 June parliamentary elections, he was elected a deputy to the Federal Assembly (parliament) for the Civic Forum movement, the election winner (together with Public Against Violence in Slovakia).

Jiri Dienstbier has been Czechoslovak Foreign Minister of the National Understanding Government since 10 December 1989 and Deputy Premier since April 1990.

Jiri Dienstbier Pays Official Visit to Japan

WA2310131290

For coverage of the visit of Foreign Minister Dienstbier to Japan, including his talks with Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu and Foreign Minister Nakayama, see the 23 October Japan section of the East Asia DAILY REPORT and succeeding issues.

Russian Parliament Speaker Khasbulatov Pays Visit

Khasbulatov, Szabad Discuss Ties

LD2010110690 Budapest MTI in English 1026 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 19 (MTI)—Gyorgy Szabad, speaker of parliament, met Ruslan Khasbulatov, first deputy speaker of the parliament of Russia, in Budapest on Friday.

In the current transformation in Central and Eastern Europe, it is of paramount importance for the two legislations to set up contacts with one another, Szabad said. The speaker proposed that the parliamentary committees should establish working relations.

Khasbulatov said it would be important for the future of political and economic relations to preserve the time-tested agreements and forms of co-operation. He proposed elaborating by the end of this year a general, many-sided agreement which would guarantee the expansion of relations.

Szabad said there was still a great deal of mutual mistrust in the two peoples, which stemmed, to no small extent, from the bad experiences of past episodes. He considered it very imporant for a good relationship between the two peoples that Hungarian-Soviet ties should not be burdened by steps that are very difficult to justify, for instance the stalling of oil deliveries.

Khasbulatov Urges Deepening Relations

LD2010111190 Budapest MTI in English 1037 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 19 (MTI)—It would be reasonable and necessary to establish diplomatic relations between Russia and Hungary. Russia strives to lay the foundations of a new-type of comprehensive relationship with Hungary, Ruslan Khasbulatov, first deputy president of the Supreme Soviet of Russia, told a Budapest news conference on Friday. The politician, who is considered the right and of Russian head of state Boris Yeltsin, arrived in Hungary for a non-official lightning visit.

Khasbulatov said he had held profound talks with Gyorgy Szabad, speaker of parliament, Imre Szokai, deputy state secretary of foreign affairs, and senior representatives of the Ministry of International Economic Relations. They agreed that there was a mutual interest in deepening relations. This goal would be efficiently promoted by a universal agreement on new-type inter-state co-operation, which could be gained this year or, at the latest, early next year.

Fur on Meeting With Romanian Counterpart

AU2210175790 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 20 Oct 90 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Defense Minister Fur by Peter Vajda in Budapest on 19 October: "Practice Is the Real Touchstone"; first paragraph is NEPSZABADSAG introduction]

[Text] As we already reported, Lajos Fur met with his Romanian counterpart, General Victor Stanculescu, who is Romania's national defense minister. In the Defense Ministry last night, we asked Lajos Fur about the reasons for the two ministerial meetings that were held in Gyula and Arad.

[Fur] Together with the new leadership of the ministry, we decided that we not only had to establish military links with the countries of Central and Western Europe, we also had to establish our military links with our neighbors on a new basis. This is an essential issue for us. A few weeks ago, I met the previous Czechoslovak defense minister in Bratislava. It is a well-known fact that we plan to have meetings with the defense ministers of Austria and Yugoslavia. I have already signaled to the Soviet Embassy in Budapest that, within the framework of the Budapest meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact, I would like to have talks with Marshal Dmitriy Yazov, the Soviet defense minister. Incidentally, I have already informed General Lushev about my intention (Footnote: General Lushev is the commander in chief of the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact, and he recently visited Budapest). In other words, to use an expression which is currently in vogue, this is "a round series of negotiations," and the talks held with the Romanian national defense minister fit into this series.

This, of course, is the simplest explanation. In a wider sense, one can add that a new situation has arisen in Central and Eastern Europe, and particularly here in Hungary, and as we see it, this situation has two determining factors. First, the withdrawal of Soviet troops has begun, and in the case of Hungary, it will be completed in mid-1991. The other factor that determines our situation is that we are going to leave the military organization of the Warsaw Pact on the basis of a parliamentary decision, or rather, on the basis of a government decision. A completely new situation is emerging. Perhaps one could even say that an "absence of superpowers," or a superpower vacuum is being created, and it is vital for us to fill this vacuum in some way. The history of the Warsaw Pact is coming to an end, but the new European security system has not yet been elaborated. Bilateral military relations are inevitable in this transitional period if security is to be guaranteed. These bilateral relations could eliminate a situation of threat or endangerment.

[Vajda] Perhaps we could talk about your most recent meeting in concrete terms. What impressions did you get from your colleague in Bucharest?

[Fur] Maybe he would put it the same way as I. In any case, I can tell you that we sat down for our meetings with great expectations, and with certain reservations, of course. In the end, the negotiations took place in a relaxed atmosphere, which enabled us to also discuss directly and openly those issues that burden the relations between our two countries, and which sometimes make relations tense—namely, interstate relations and the fact that the Romanian national minority issue remains unsolved. I must say that when this issue was raised, the Romanian negotiating party proved to be open. Incidentally, in Gyula, Stanculescu had the opportunity to meet the representative of Romanians living in Hungary, and to visit the town's Romanian-language high school, and in Arad, I personally sat down to hold talks with two county leaders of the Democratic Association of Hungarians in Romania. We both felt that all we could do was to help in finding a solution to major issues, but that is the role of politics. At the same time, we were able to locate areas of cooperation in military matters, and to draw up a concrete program: I note this as a success. Naturally, the realization of this cooperation necessarily depends on the future development of our bilateral relations. In that sense, concrete actions and practice constitute the touchstone.

Antall, Goncz Issue Appeal to Hungarians Abroad

LD2010184290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Appeal by Hungarian President Arpad Goncz and Prime Minister Jozsef Antall to Magyars living outside Hungary, marking the occasion of the 23 October anniversary of the 1956 revolution and the proclamation of the Republic of Hungary; the appeal is read by Peter (Korbuly)]

[Text] [Announcer] October 23rd, the anniversary of the 1956 revolution and freedom fight, and of the proclamation of the Republic of Hungary. On the occasion of the day of national reconciliation, we appeal to the Hungarians who live outside the country's borders. This is how the letter written by Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary, and Jozsef Antall, Hungary's prime minister, begins. Peter (Korbuly) reads out the almost three-page-long message.

[(Korbuly)] We commemorate the Hungarian revolution which, in the final analysis, launched the historical process in which the peoples of Central and Eastern Europe can take the path of freedom and democracy. The Hungarian people are known and respected throughout the world first and foremost for this revolution and freedom fight.

We are able to issue our appeal at a time when a change in the system has been accomplished in Hungary, when our political endeavors are clearly determined by the claim to democracy and belonging to the European community of values. The irreversible change in the country's policy provides the opportunity for the Hungarians living within and outside the borders to develop a system of relations of deeper content and of new quality. Every Hungarian, inside the country and abroad, should use this important day to reckon with his feelings and possibilities, to see how he could do his utmost to ensure that the positive changes of the past months in Hungary will encompass every sphere of life, to help us avoid as best we can the pitfalls of democracy and freedom, and to create a flourishing country of which we can all be proud.

Our conviction is that this is possible only in a Europe, in a world, which sets the thriving of freedom, democracy, and the mutually assisting cooperation of the peoples and countries as its objectives. We, too, have committed ourselves to these values.

The leadership of the new Hungary considers everyone who regards himself in this way to be Hungarian. It feels responsibility for the future of our nation, and perceiving our country's grave legacy left to us by the former dictatorships, it does not shrink back from sacrifices and is ready to collaborate on the creation of a new country and a new nation. We consider it our duty to stand up for the right of the Hungarians living beyond our borders, who have often stood their ground in very difficult times. They, as Hungarians—in their mother-tongue—should freely maintain contact with their motherland and Hungarians living elsewhere, and they should be able to decide their own fate; in this manner, they should enjoy full protection of their interests.

We consider the guarantee and respect of the rights of the minorities to be a basic element of universal human rights and of building a new democratic Europe.

We respect the Hungarians who live in the West, who, no matter when they had to leave their homeland, enriched the country that took them with the spirit of the ideals of 1956 and by preserving their nationality. In this spirit—keeping in mind the interests of the miniroties living in Hungary and promoting the preservation of their identity and their culture—we strive—by ensuring extra rights [toebblet jogok] which guarantee this, and not by curtailing rights—for cooperation with the neighboring states, with the democratic social organizations of the mother countries.

We appeal to Hungarians throughout the world to unite all our forces to create a world where no one is relegated to the background because he accepts his nationality, and a world where the equality of possibilities for the minorities is regarded as an indispensable condition for the prospering of the majority.

We welcome it with pleasure if the people who profess themselves as Hungarians prosper and if they also spread our good reputation anywhere in the world. We believe that, for the first time in a long while, the historical possibility for joint action is again open to Hungarians worldwide in the spirit of the ideals of tolerance, pluralism, democracy and our constitution. For the purpose of realizing this, it is necessary to set aside petty discord.

We wish all Magyars who live beyond the border prosperity, understanding, and cooperation which serves the benefit of our homeland and nation, in a peaceful, humane world.

[Signed] Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary. Jozsef Antall, prime minister of the Republic of Hungary. Budapest, 20 October 1990.

SZDSZ Leader Holds News Conference on Elections

LD2010110890 Budapest MTI in English 1015 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 19 (MTI) [date as received]—The local elections have made the power relations between the governing coalition and the opposition more balanced, Janos Kis, president of the Alliance of Free Democrats (AFD) [SZDSZ], told a news conference on Friday [19 Oct].

Kis emphasized that the conflicts within parliament should not be expanded into ones between parliament and the local governments since this would paralyse the system of political institutions.

In reply to questions, Ivan Peto, head of the AFD parliamentary group, said the AFD had not paid too big a price to get the Federation of Young Democrats (FYD) [FIDESZ] to withdraw the candidacy of Klara Ungar for the post of the mayor of Budapest. The AFD-FYD agreement reflected the undeniably growing force of the Young Democrats, Peto said. The AFD was aware that the agreement would strengthen the FYD in parliament, he added.

Reflecting upon Finance Minister Perenc Rabar's latest news conference and statements by other ministers and state secretaries, Janos Kis said the government had started to realize that the economy was more crucial than it thought it was.

Nevertheless, the AFD does not consider it timely to hold a six-party negotiation on the ways of getting out of the crisis and halting inflation, as proposed by Gyula Horn, president of the Hungarian Socialist party (HSP), Janos Kis said. He added that first of all the government should clarify its standpoint, and put forward its own programme for stabilization. The six-party co-ordination could take place after that, on the request of the government, Kis said.

Government Discusses Law, Banking, Gulf Issue

LD2210220590 Budapest MTI in English 1730 GMT 22 Oct 90

[text] Budapest, October 22 (MTI)—At its special session held on Monday [22 October], the Hungarian Government discussed several matters that were prepared already at the session of the government on October 18.

The cabinet approved a proposal to amend the law on criminal proceedings. Inasmuch as parliament also approves the proposal, then, in accordance with the spirit of the European covenant on human rights, the duration of preliminary custody cannot be more than 72 hours. (The practice so far was five days.)

On the basis of a proposal by the National Bank of Hungary, the government authorized the minister of finance to open talks in the interest of ensuring financial coverage for the forint-[words indistinct] commissions arriving without coverage from the Soviet Union. The government agreed [words indistinct] the national bank stopping these payments. The measure mainly has disadvantageous effects on persons settling in Hungary from the Soviet Union.

On the (?basis of) a report by the Ministry of Defence, the government discussed the conditions for the possible participation of Hungarian armed forces in settling the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict. The government proposes to parliament to dispatch a military-medical group to support the international forces in the Persian Gulf region. The government authorized the minister of defence to see to the preparations of assembling, on a voluntary basis, and preparing such a group, and to hold diplomatic and military-diplomatic talks with those concerned, in cooperation with the Hungarian Foreign Ministry.

The government passed a resolution to set up a (?Hungarian) strategic inter-ministerial committee, under the leadership of Laszlo Bogar, secretary of state of the Ministry of International Economic Relations.

Special Loans Available to Drought-Hit Farms

LD2010162490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Speech by Laszlo Sarossy, political state secretary for the Ministry of Agriculture, to National Assembly session in Budapest—live]

[Summary] At its session on 6 September the government decided on a package plan to help drought-stricken farms. It offers help to farms which suffered damage to more than 15 percent of their crops.

"Farmers, including private farmers, who suffered from the drought will receive working capital credit of up to 75 percent for the proportion of their losses above the 15-percent limit on payment for damage to their crops. The loan is granted as 13- percent preferential interest and will have to be repaid by 31 December 1992." It is for the purchase of seeds, animal feed, fertilizer, and pesticide. The government and the National Bank set aside a total of 10 billion forints; farms can apply for these credits at their local commercial banks.

The farms affected will be granted a reduction or waiver of their land tax in respect to their plowed land. The government has also decided to waive the special tax on affected farms that they would have had to pay if they increase wages. Now if the increase does not exceed 16 percent they do not have to pay the special tax. At the request of the government the Social Security Main Directorate also helps by permitting the affected farms to reschedule their social security payments without punitive interest payments.

"The survey of the drought-damaged farms has been completed. Nearly 900 cooperatives and 80 state farms signalled that the damage exceeded 15 percent—totalling approximately 27 billion forints. Of this—from the point of view of the above financial measures—the damage above the 15 percent which can be taken into account amounts to about 13 billion forints. Added to this will probably be the result of the survey to be completed by 15 November and carried out in terms of private farms—an expected 1 billion forints drop in yield."

Fur Addresses Assembly on Military Conscription

LD2010130490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0953 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Speech by Defense Minster Lajos Fur to the National Assembly session in Budapest—live]

[Text] Mr. Speaker, esteemed National Assembly: Before the detailed debate begins, I would like to speak briefly in connection with the closing provision of the bill submitted by the government. According to the closing provision in question, the bill would also include those eligible for military service who began their service in August of this year. On the basis of the planned provision, all people who are performing military service which they began earlier would be obligated to perform military service for 18 months. Several deputies have proposed amendments in opposition to the government's proposal to the effect that the validity of the law should apply immediately to everyone who is eligible for service—that is, we should discharge all soldiers whose completed military service has already exceeded 12 months.

Having considered these proposals, I would like to draw the attention of the Assembly to the following: If the bill applies to every soldier, it would be necesary to discharge out of turn 24,500 soldiers from the ranks of the Hungarian Army and the border guard. If we take into account that the current number of new soldiers who joined the ranks in August is 24,000—whose professional training has not been completed—then in total, 14,700 trained soldiers would remain in the Army and in the border guard. This would be only 23 percent of the current total force. All this would result in the need to halt virtually every second combat-technical device among the ground forces; this would mean that the troops would become inadequate for perfoming any kind of task. Among the air-defense troops, permanent 24-hour combat-readiness duty could not be maintained. It would be impossible to use a considerable amount of the radar and missile-complexes [raketakomplexumok]. At the same time, partial operation of the radar would also endanger the safety of flights. Among the border guards, some 3,700 trained men would be available to handle the defense of the state borders; thus, a considerable proportion of the borders would remain unguarded.

Owing to the decreased size of the forces, it would be necessary to considerably reduce the conscripts' leave.

Esteemed Assembly, in this situation the sole solution could only be for us to call up reservists to replace the soldiers who were discharged out of turn, for periods of four to five months, on a rotating basis. In three cycles, this would affect more than 30,000 reservists. Beyond the burdens falling on the reservists, the production loss and the earnings supplement provided for reservists would constitute losses to the tune of several billion forints to the nation's economy. For this reason, we do not consider this solution to be practical.

At the same time, we recognize that the soldiers who continue their service will end up in a more disadvantageous position than those for whom the law is valid. Of course, we must be aware that the reduction of duration of service, no matter when it happens, will always affect certain age groups unfavorably. In our view, they should make this sacrifice in the interest of the country's defense capability. We, however, feel that the demand is fair, that within our possibilities, we should provide them with advantages which reduce their burdens and increase the amount of their benefits.

We, therefore, propose compromises which are within the frameworks of rationality and fairness. With due regard to this, on the basis of our position which has been coordinated with the command of the Hungarian Army, we wish to provide the following benefits for those who do military service for more than 12 months:

1. We would make a submission to government for the purpose of supplementing the Council of Ministers' Decree 6/1977 on the implementation of the Defense Law. This supplement would contain interim regulations, whose essence would be that government should make it possible for those doing military service for longer than 12 months to be paid an income-supplement benefit to which only those doing reserve service are otherwise entitled. As a consequence, the pay of 1,000 forints, received from the Army, would rise to 5,540 forints monthly. This would be a welfare-type allowance, and it would be totally tax exempt. The extra expenditures this entails, in the case of the soldiers, would be assumed by the Army, to the debit of its own budget—so the finance minister should be reassured. 2. We would ensure, if possible, an extra day of leave each month for the soldiers concerned, so that their associates are not disadvantaged. I would propose to the Army's commander that when taking into account the requirements of combat-readines, they should be able to take more leave than average. 3. With regard to the fact that after the law comes into effect, the total duration of service for those eligible for military service will decrease from 28 months to 22 months, it would be possible to obligate the members of the forces affected to do reserve military

service at the most for four months, until they reach the age of 50. We would plan that within the three years following discharge, they should not be called up for reservist training or retraining. From these ranks, we would discharge every dispensible soldier—thus some 3,500 people on the first occasion, in November of this year—after 15 months' service. Those who were called up in Feburary and May of 1990, who are indispensable, would perform at the most 15 months of military service.

I ask the National Assembly, please accept and adopt this compromise proposal and solution as your own, for the sake of maintaining the operability of the army, for the sake of human fairness and rationality. [applause]

Views Army Personnel Levels

LD2010183890 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1440 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Speech by Defense Minister Lajos Fur to the National Assembly session in Budapest—live]

[Excerpts] Mr. Speaker, esteemed House: [passage omitted] Among the issues raised, there have been harsh criticisms in places, and perhaps even accusations on more than one occasion—such as, that officers are leaving the Army by the thousands; or, the Army is secretly preparing the new Hungarian military doctrine. Let me reply to the first with just one fact: this year 2,300 professional officers and enlisted men left the Army; only about half of these are officers—in other words, around 1,200. Furthermore, nearly two-thirds of them have gone into retirement. The number of those leaving for other reasons, therefore, can be put at 100-200 at the most. [passage omitted]

The other point, that we are secretly preparing a new military doctrine, does not agree with reality. Up until now, the preparation of the new Hungarian military doctrine has been proceeding with the involvement of the parties. The two state secretaries—administrative and political—have put quite a big program before the Defense Committee. They made it clear that we wish to gain acceptance for the new Hungarian military doctrine in a broad social debate—both inside and outside the Army—in an open debate to be held also in the political parties, in the course of a National Assembly discussion. [passage omitted]

There was total agreement, as a matter of fact, on two basic issues. An army, no matter what its internal atmosphere, is needed by the country; it is needed by the Hungarian Republic, which will soon be fully regaining its sovereignty. Without this we can simply not guarantee the Hungarian Republic's national sovereignty, although we know and we hope that the development of Europe will proceed in the direction in which a smaller role will be given to military force in the keeping and maintaining of security, and an ever bigger role will be given to diplomacy, to policy, to the entire system and network of bilateral and multilateral relations—putting it plainly, the creation of the all-European security system.

Until this all-European security system is created, we cannot do anything else. We cannot excessively disarm the Hungarian Army; disarmament must be in proportion to the country's resources, population, and assets.

One can, of course, argue about how big this Army should be. Now, however, there is a general European standard. In Central and Western Europe in general—thus, not in the Warsaw Pact states—in Western Europe, the number of conscripts, officers, sub-officers, and soldiers represents some 0.6-0.8 percent of the population. If therefore, in Hungary, we want to create an army in accordance with this, it will have to number some 70-75,000 or 80,000; the latest plans and concepts of the Hungarian Army are proceeding in this direction. A so-called large-scale reduction of numbers is in progress, which will reduce the numbers in the Hungarian Army from 126,000 to 90,000. This includes also the 15,000 civilian employees. In other words, if this program ends by the beginning of 1992, the Hungarian Army will number 75,000. This fits precisely into the concept that relates to the size of the present European armies. [passage omitted]

Incidentally, we have to decide on four or five more important issues, and reach some kind of compromise solution, so we can introduce the amendment proposal itself—the 12-month period of armed military service in the Hungarian Army. [passage omitted] The big issue is that the Army's requirement as to numbers in the coming years will be such that, if there were to be a shortage of several thousands—that is, if several thousand withdrew from armed service—the Army would simply become incapacitated. The requirement, according to the present norms, is 55,00 annually. The generation available at this moment numbers 75,000—that is the proportion of male inhabitants of this age. On the other hand, in the 1990's—starting from 1992-93—it will fall to between 50,000-60,000, on the basis of the predictions of the demographic wave. [passage omitted] For this reason, here we have also offered a compromise proposal: insofar as we would insist on the 22-month continuous civilian service, and at the same time, by way of compromise, we agree that the period of unarmed service drop from the 18 months to 15 months. [passage omitted]

The third main issue is the issue of punishment. In this matter we are completely willing not only for compromise, but we accept the solution propsoed by FIDESZ [Federation of Young Democrats], according to which only terms of detention exceeding one month should be calculated as extra period of service; furthermore, terms of detention under one month should be simply terminated automatically and should not be included in the period of military service—rather, it should be included in the period of military service. As a result, only those who have spent more than one month in detention at the detention centre of the relevant unit will serve extra time. Prison, of course, is a different matter. I think this was never even disputed before the esteemed House. [passage omitted]

Defense Spokesman Keleti on Army Costs

AU2210102090 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 18 Oct 90 pp 1,3

[Interview with Defense Ministry Spokesman Gyorgy Keleti by Karoly Lencses; place and date not given: "How Much Does the Army Cost?"; first paragraph is MAGYAR HIRLAP introduction]

[Text] The Defense Ministry's notions concerning the 1991 budget were recently published, and they immediately sparked off certain reactions; the demand for additional funds exceeds 30 billion forints, which really is a shocking amount. We interviewed General Gyorgy Keleti.

[Keleti] This question arose at a news conference, and the figure was quite surprising: The Hungarian Army requires some 77 billion forints for 1991. I have to stress, however, that this is only an economic/financial calculation that the ministry leadership has not even discussed yet, which the government will also have to discuss, and which can only be approved by parliament. Incidentally, for 1990, the previous parliament prescribed 35.4 billion forints in funds, and it expected that the Army will receive its own income of 4.6 billion forints; therefore, we would have had 40 billion forints at our disposal. Perhaps it would not be superfluous for me to add some additional data. In 1986, we received 34.4 billion forints in central financial support; however, even in 1988, we only received 41.8 billion forints. Furthermore, due to the introduction of an income tax and a VAT, we ended up with a serious deficit. So, the real value of the amount at our disposal has gradually eroded, and over the last three years, even the gross figure has decreased.

[Lencses] Nevertheless, your own income plans for 1990 already amount to more than 10 percent of the financial support you receive. Where does this income come from?

[Keleti] Our professional staff pays rent for its official living quarters, but we also have an income from our holiday sites, for example. The unusually high income for 1990 would have arisen through the sale of military-technical appliances made available through arms reductions and through the sale of real estate belonging to the discarded workers' militia. Everyone knows, however, that virtually no one paid for these objects, (there was not even any demand, and, in fact, in between time, the new government even ordered a ban on selling property) nor did we have any significant income from arms sales. There was no demand in our region, and we do not deliver anything to areas that are in a crisis. Our concerns were increased by the fact that the former Finance Ministry predicted a 19 percent inflation rate for 1990. In fact, the primary needs of the Army are foodstuffs and fuel, and price increases are expected to reach 30 percent for such products. This, in turn, means that the real value of our budgetary support falls by 10 percent. On the basis of all this, our financial experts really have estimated that 70 billion to 77 billion forints are necessary for us to maintain our standards.

[Lencses] So, not even a doubling of your budgetary fund is sufficient for the Army's development and modernization?

[Keleti] No, it is not enough. It is a well-known fact that inflation will not slow down in 1991 either, and we also have to deal with some other factors. Due to the extremely low living standards of our professional staff, the government accepted a 25 percent wage increase this year, but it did not guarantee any surplus funds, so we had to compensate by leaving vacancies open. The Army will also become more costly because of the shortening of military service. Until now, we had 18 months at our disposal, but now, all the ammunition and energy that we have to devote to the military service will be used up within a year. The conversion into dollar accounts is an enormous issue. This will probably mean an even greater price increase in military equipment purchases than in the buying of civilian goods.

[Lencses] In other words, you have no means for development. What will happen to all the vehicles that are several decades old, or to outdated weapons?

[Keleti] There are definitely hardly any armies in the world which can start operating the latest models that have just come off the planning desk. We, of course, do not even have the possibility of purchasing less-modern equipment, given that we can only devote nine percent of our entire budget to development. How much does that amount to nowadays? The price of a single MiG-29 is $20 million. Incidentally, in many countries, where ratios are "normal," up to 40 percent of the army's budget is spent on development. If we cannot devote any more funds to this aim, we may end up in a virtually hopeless situation in a few years.

[Lencses] You are planning to reduce the number of Army personnel. Will that not save the Army some money?

[Keleti] First of all, we plan to reduce the number of conscripts by 35 percent; in other words, compared to the 106,000 soldiers of 1989, we plan to limit Army personnel numbers to 75,000 in two years. We, however, must be aware that, in the short term, it is unfortunately cheaper to maintain conscripts than to acquire substitute equipment and install it for guard and security purposes.

[Lencses] How much will it cost for Hungary to leave the Warsaw Pact?

[Keleti] At present, an important segment of our troops is stationed in the western part of Hungary, in accordance with previous military doctrine. Parallel with our withdrawal from the military pact, however, we have to organize a proportioned distribution over our territory, and that will definitely be costly. This, of course, does not mean that there will be barracks in every border village, but more soldiers will be stationed in the eastern part of our country, to the detriment of the area beyond the Danube.

[Lencses] General Keleti, is it not possible that your demands are too high, and that they are meant to improve your negotiating position?

[Keleti] Look, I trust our experts; however, let me add another figure: We spend one-quarter of our current budget on personal income tax and on social insurance contributions, and we spend more than half of our budget on personal expenditures such as rent, food, and clothes. I do not think that our demands are exaggerated.

[Lencses] Will the Army collapse if your budgetary support does not grow according to your plans?

[Keleti] The government's three-year program has been published, and it also contains individual chapters on national security and the Army. According to the program, the government hopes to give "substantially increased budgetary support" to our ministry; therefore, I am confident that we will not have fundamental financial difficulties. At the same time I think that a broad consensus has been established for the necessity of the Army. Personally, I find it hard to imagine that the 7,000 forint-per-capita defense expenditure that we are planning for 1991 will be too high. That equals approximately $100 per capita, and in the recent past, Sweden spent $364 per capita, and even Czechoslovakia spent $267 per capita.

If we do not receive the planned amount, then we will have to carry out further reductions that were not previously expected, and this would set off a virtually irreversible process.

President Goncz Comments on Role of Army

LD2210194390 Budapest MTI in English 1715 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 22 (MTI)—The Hungarian Army of today has o enemy picture. [sentence as received] It should not fight against an enemy, but should ensure the country's defence, the inviolability of its borders, said Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary.

Mr Goncz, speaking at a ceremony held on Monday in the Army corps headquarters of the Hungarian Army in Tata, on the occasion of the 34th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and freedom fight, and the first anniversary of the declaration of the Republic of Hungary.

The president said that today the Hungarian Army is fully responsible for the country's defence. The leaders and staff of the former Army accepted the traditions of Hungarian freedom and the Army. The Hungarian Army defends the country, but would not be the first to raise its weapons against anyone, for the Hungarian Army is the Army of peace, Mr Goncz said.

Walesa Chairs Meeting of Bydgoszcz Electorate

LD2310081790 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Lech Lutownowski report from Bydgoszcz]

[Excerpt] Today, Lech Walesa met with a delegation of 300 employees of the Machrum engineering works from Bydgoszcz, which employs 1,500 people. Afterwards, at 1600, a large electoral meeting by the candidate to the presidential chair was started at the old market place in Bydgoszcz. About 12,000 people attended, and for an hour Lech Walesa was asked various questions, starting with the future of Polish youth, who, on finishing school, cannot find work, earnings of the lowest-paid invalid cooperatives, and allotments. He was also asked about the draft law banning abortion. Lech Walesa put his whole future presidency on the scales in this matter: I am prepared to lose, but I will defend the law.

At 1900 a new meeting started, this time with trade unionists. I remind you that Bydgoszcz Solidarity has given a free hand to all members in the presidential election. [passage omitted]

Mazowsze Solidarity Supports Walesa for Presidency

LD2010224490 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Anna Jankowska report from Mazowsze]

[Excerpt] The assembly of delegates decided by a large majority to support Lech Walesa as candidate for the post of president. At the same time, the union's stand in the general election was discussed in detail as the most important issue. The delegates agreed that the union as an organization must have a group of deputies in the Sejm who would represent interests of the hired workers. [passage omitted]

Conservative-Liberal Party Backs Walesa Presidency

LD2010134390 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1105 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Representatives of the Main Council of the Conservative-Liberal Party [PKL] deliberated late into last night. Here is part of their statement:

The supreme aim of the PKL is the establishment of a privately owned market economy as the only way in which man can fully realize his creative powers. The condition for the implementation of this aim is the reconstruction of the legal-economic order of the country. A fundamental role in this process falls to persons engaging their efforts and capital. The Conservative-Liberals, feeling themselves to represent this, the most enterprising group, have in the forefront of their attention the need to guarantee the permanence of the changes that are being carried out.

The public statements of Lech Walesa on the need to accelerate transformations permit the judgement that after his election as president of the Republic of Poland the economic transformations awaited by us will ensue in an authentically liberal atmosphere. Notwithstanding the fact that the choice of president is an irrefutably individual matter for every person, the PKL Main Council believes it to be appropriate to support Lech Walesa, recognizing him as the guarantor of these difficult transformations in an atmosphere of social calm.

That is the statement of the PKL Main Council.

Mazowiecki Continues Campaign in Poznan Region

LD2010201990 Warsaw PAP in English 1751 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 20—"In a few weeks time every one of us will face a decisive choice. We still do not know what the powers of the future president will be, so too much should not be promised the more so. In making the choice do not allow yourself to be swept away by emotions. Vote with consideration and seriousness because there already is no such thing as 'them' as today all of us make up Poland and we will decide its future," stated Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki at an electoral meeting at Poznan University today.

The presidential candidate also met with farmers at Sroda Wielkopolska. "A farmer must know what awaits him and what he can count on in the future. Hence, the most important thing is the stability of the agrarian policy," Mazowiecki said, assuring the farmers that not one square meter of their land would be taken away. "We will on the other hand propose that the state farms not be carved up but privatized through the sale of shares," he added.

Foreign Affairs Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski, accompanying the prime minister, told the Poznan residents: "We are heading for Brussels. But we must prepare for this properly so as not to run the risk of being rejected by the twelve states." The prime minister added: "We are not taking part in the restructuring of Europe as onlookers."

Asked several times about his attitude towards his main rival in the presidential race, Solidarity Leader Lech Walesa, the prime minister said: "I have not forgotten that he offered me the office of prime minister. I hope that he too does not forget that many people, me inclusive, had an impact on who he is now."

Mazowiecki Fights for Polish Democracy

LD2110193290 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Statement by Prime Minister Mazowiecki to electoral committees meeting at Warsaw University on 21 October—recorded]

[Excerpt] The regional electoral committees, which are running the presidential campaign of Tadeusz Mazowiecki, have, after conducting tests, chosen the best electoral slogan. It says: Stubbornly forward. Members of the prime minister's electoral committees met today in the Auditorium Maximum at the University of Warsaw.

[Mazowiecki] I would like to thank those of you who are working in these electoral committees very warmly for wanting to do this groundwork. In a certain sense I feel—as I also said in Poznan—a little embarrassed in front of you, and if it were not for the fact that I am more concerned with some issue than with myself, it would be difficult for me to get rid of that embarrassment. I am convinced that it really is a question of the future of democracy in Poland. [passage omitted]

Mazowiecki Ready for TV Debate With Walesa

LD2210213290 Warsaw PAP in English 1851 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 22—Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki voiced in Poznan his readiness to take part in a TV electoral debate with Lech Walesa.

The plenipotentiary of Tadeusz Mazowiecki's electoral staff said that the debate should be in two parts, the first one dealing with internal policy and the second one with foreign issues.

The broadcasting time assigned for the debate should provide an opportunity for a business-like and extensive presentation of views by both candidates.

The debate should be chaired by an independent journalist or a group of journalists acting on behalf of all electors. Both candidates should be asked the same questions.

Green Party Presidential Candidate Withdraws

LD2210123590 Warsaw PAP in English 1144 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Krakow, Oct 22—Janusz Bryczkowski of the Polish Green Party withdrew his candidacy for the presidential office, and said both he and his party would vote for Lech Walesa.

Bryczkowski said that the presidential elections activated a Polish inferno about which Prime Minister Mazowiecki has spoken, and he argued that Polish Green Party cannot take part in this process even to the smallest extent.

Bryczkowski also said that no matter who wins the elections, the subsequent victory will be doubtful while disaster is almost certain.

Presidential Candidates Air Views on Election

LD2210075290 Warsaw PAP in English 2130 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 21—Following are some of the statements made by presidential candidates over the weekend:

Tadeusz Mazowiecki in Warsaw: The point of this campaign is a future of democracy in Poland, an open, modern, tolerant democracy based on the values of the Christian culture, and not the system with one person dominating.

I look with regret at the deep division that is taking place today. I ask all of you to be careful not to get stuck in the wave of hatred that is unfortunately being let loose.

Roman Bartoszcze in Siedlce: The present policy of the government hits at residents of the countryside. And the welfare of the countryside means in fact the welfare of the whole nation. The Polish Peasant Party (PSL) will possibly enter into electoral alliances with the political groupings which represent national, Christian and peasant ideals.

Only an organization of a distinct shape and stable structure, such as PSL, can pull Poland out of the crisis.

Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz in Lublin: It is bad we are holding this election now. It is illogical we choose a president without knowing his future powers. The mere election of a new president will not solve our vital economic and social problems.

The president should be one of the three major elements of the state body and his fundamental task should be respect for the constitutional order.

Leszek Moczulski in Nowa Huta: In case I win the election I will appoint a Solidarity prime minister.

I am for the restoration of the April constitution of 1935 which means renunciation of all obligations of the People's Republic of Poland. This refers to foreign debts as well.

Janusz Korwin-Mikke in Krakow: Lech Walesa and myself have good chances to win the election. Of course, Tadeusz Mazowiecki has greater chances to run in the second round, but then he will be completely beaten by Walesa.

Our life will perhaps be more dangerous with Walesa, but while going to Europe with Mazowiecki we will sink in a swamp.

The political life in Poland should be founded on truth, honour and the sense of justice.

Kornel Morawiecki in Wroclaw: If I became president, I would make Poland cease to repay all her debts. Our creditors were well aware they were lending money for upholding a collapsing communist Moloch.

Walesa and Mazowiecki are people of the same bloc.

Presidential Candidates Seek Residents' Support

LD2310055990 Warsaw PAP in English 2310 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Gdansk, Krakow, Bialystok, Oct. 22—Candidates for the presidential office today met with residents of various parts of Poland to seek support for their electoral programmes.

The efficient trade with the west is the only chance for the development of the "Stalowa Wola" steelworks and other Polish enterprises said Stanislaw Tyminski during his meeting with managerial cadres of the steelworks.

The leader of the Liberty Party, Kornel Morawiecki met with residents of Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot complex. At one of the rallies Morawiecki said that the resignation from the repayment of the foreign debt would be the fastest way for Poland to get rich.

Leszek Moczulski, the leader of the Confederation for an Independent Poland KPN met with residents of Krakow today. In his electoral programme, Moczulski opted for strong presidential powers.

Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz who is running for president on behalf of the parliamentary left-wing met with residents of Bialystok. Most of the questions asked during the meeting concerned agriculture, economic reforms, Polish-Soviet and Polish-Belorussian relations.

Peasant Party Leader Attends Election Rally

LD2010210490 Warsaw PAP in English 1744 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Siedlce, Oct. 20—"During our congress we said we would create an alternative economic program and today we have it," stated presidential candidate, leader of the Polish Peasant Party [PSL] Roman Bartoszcze during an electoral meeting with PSL members in Siedlce.

Responding to questions, Bartoszcze stressed that the current economic policy of the government was aimed against the countryside. "Peasant activists must convince the residents of cities that the well-being of the countryside in reality stands for well-being of the whole nation," the PSL leader said, adding that the party would enter into possible alliances with groups representing national, Christian and peasant ideals.

OKP To Discuss Caucus 'Divisions' 24 Oct

LD1910184490 Warsaw PAP in English 1256 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 19—Next Wednesday, October 24, the Citizens Parliamentary Club (OKP) is going to hold a discussion to define rules for its further functioning in view of the divisions that have appeared within the caucus.

At present the OKP Club numbers 255 deputies and senators who represent various political views and stands. The first to emerge was a rural section. This apolitical trade group which numbers 32 deputies and 18 senators was formed in August 1989.

Last November 22 deputies and 8 senators set up the Polish Peasant Party-Solidarity group.

"While approaching the socioeconomic dilemmas facing Poland we are guided by the system of values shaped by the Solidarity in the years 1980-1981. This unites and identifies us," reads a declaration of the group for the protection of employees' interests formed within OKP last December. The declaration was signed by 17 deputies and 7 senators. After some time the group terminated its activity.

Last April a group of Christian Democrats numbering 55 deputies and 12 senators was formed. "We are firmly against all monopolist traditions both in politics and economy. Placed on the right wing of the parliamentary political scene we keep our distance from all extreme options and signs of intolerance," reads the declaration of this group.

Four deputies and 12 senators formed last June a liberal democratic parliamentary group which supports reforms leading to the liberal and market system.

Last September the Christian National Association group, open to all OKP members, was set up. According to its declaration the group is going "to oppose any attempts to replace the political monopoly of the communist party with a monopoly of the leftist and liberal forces, and to favour political pluralism within OKP."

This month a parliamentary group of the Centre Alliance which numbers 41 deputies and 12 senators was formed. It is guided by the Centre Alliance which numbers 41 deputies and 12 senators was formed. It is guided by the Centre Alliance declaration.

Meanwhile, 25 deputies and 23 senators signed the founding declaration of the Citizens Movement Democratic Action [ROAD].

Also in October a joint Senate and Sejm (lower house) group of the Democratic Right Forum was set up. It works for the construction of a strong and stable state, for consistent changes leading to a mature democracy based on a market economy and the rule of law.

Nearly 90 OKP members, including 46 deputies and 40 senators, belong to no political grouping within OKP.

One of the concepts suggests to give OKP the character of a federation or coalition of political groupings while maintaining its hitherto name.

State Treasury To Take Over PZPR Assets

AU2210124090 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 18 Oct 90 p 1

[Ewa Milewicz report: "The Last of the PZPR"]

[Text] All the fixed and moveable assets held by the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] on 24 August 1989—the day Tadeusz Mazowiecki became prime minister—will be handed over to the state treasury.

That was the decision reached on Wednesday by a meeting of Sejm committees, which admitted that the bill on the fate of PZPR assets had taken several months to finalize.

The assets of "separate organizational entities under the former PZPR's control" and money will also go to the state treasury. Persons whose assets were once misappropriated by the PZPR will be able to seek compensation through the courts. The chief of the Office of the Council of Ministers is to appoint an official receiver for the PZPR assets.

The authors of the bill maintain that as soon as the PZPR lost its power on 24 August 1989, it began to shed its assets, entering into suspicious deals.

Four motions from Sejm deputies were defeated at the meeting, including one from Jozef Oleksy (Parliamentary Club of the Democratic Left), who thought the state treasury should take over the assets held by the PZPR on 28 January 1990, in other words the day the PZPR dissolved itself.

New Polish Civil Defense Head Appointed

LD2310053190 Warsaw PAP in English 2300 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 22—Secretary of State at the Office of the Council of Ministers Jerzy Kolodziejski met here today with voivodes responsible for the functioning of local structures of Poland's civil defence. On behalf of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Minister Jerzy Kolodzieski introduced new head of Poland's civil defence General Edmund Bolociuch and thanked General Jerzy Skalski for running Poland's civil defence for the last three years.

Journalists Protest Liquidation Group's Decision

AU2210201990 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 18 Oct 90 pp 1, 2

[Declaration by the SZTANDAR MLODYCH team: "New Authorities—Old Methods"]

[Text] Something that no one here expected has actually happened. In the early days of our new government authorities, there were profuse assurances of profound respect for the individual. In the meantime, these same authorities—through the medium of the Prasa-Ksiazka-Ruch [RSW] Liquidation Commission—have chosen to apply the cynical methods of former years. Once again the old methods of wielding power have been used and key appointments have been made with total disregard for the opinion of our newspaper's journalistic team. In a nutshell, we have been treated as a pawn, as a group who must listen to and carry out the orders of "those above us."

Starting on 19 October, our new editor in chief is to be Krzysztof Krol. At present he is the editor of the weekly OPINIA and is the son-in-law of Leszek Moczulski, who heads the Confederation for an Independent Poland [KPN].

We do not want to draw a comparison between the present government authorities and the authorities of the past, but the facts speak for themselves. We know to whom to complain.

In the history of SZTANDAR MLODYCH, editors used to come and go depending on the whims of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party. On two of those occasions such changes were accompanied by momentous upheavals. The first occasion was in 1957, when the Communist Party's highest organs decided that they could not permit mere journalists to produce a daily newspaper styled on Western practice. In 1957, they dismissed the entire editorial staff. Many of the paper's journalists resigned in sympathy with those who had been dismissed.

The second occasion was in 1981, when we lost our editor in chief because he had allowed the publication of an interview with Jacek Kuron. Our protests and strike action amounted to nothing.

On Wednesday [17 October], at the meeting of the team responsible for producing the newspaper, namely, the journalists, computer operators, editorial team, and administration personnel, everyone was unanimous about not working for a KPN newspaper.

Yes, a KPN newspaper! Let no one be fooled by the promises made by the new appointee that he does not intend to change the paper. We are grown-ups and are fully aware that only teenage members of the KPN could be duped by such promises. Neither we nor our readers believe a word of it.

Our readers—by buying our paper—accepted our program line and our desire to remain independent of various political groupings. By giving away our paper to the KPN—a movement that does not enjoy widespread public support—the RSW Liquidation Commission has shown its complete and utter disregard for our readers.

We want to inform our readers that we are not going to take this lying down and intend to fight for the independence of this newspaper.

This is not our last word on the matter.

Scientists Study 'Exceptionally Large' Recession

LD2110193790 Warsaw PAP in English 1842 GMT 21 Oct 90

["Polish Scientists on Recession in Poland"—PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 21—The latest expert study worked out by the Polish Academy of Sciences panel says that economic recession could not have been avoided in Poland but its depth is exceptionally large.

The scientists also examined the so-called unregistered economic activity whose scope is fairly large and therefore estimated that real recession in the first half of this year was at the level of 15-16 percent.

The experts see the sources of recession in the economic situation of the 1970's when structural imbalance of economy deepened and Poland fell into a debt trap.

The scale of present recession however is linked to an excessive concentration of the economic stabilization programme and too slow pace of systemic and organizational reforms pursued by the government.

On the other hand, the experts admitted that neither the policy of stimulating demand not more liberal monetary policy could have boosted production since socialized enterprises are still not aiming at development nor are they willing to take risk.

Radio Notes Soviet Report Over Border Violations

LD2110103290 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0700 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] According to a report given to Soviet Central Television by a representative of the KGB from the Brest area, the border guards in Brest have this year noted a threefold increase since 1989 in the number of cases of violation of the border, as well as an increase in the quantity of firearms being smuggled into the USSR. In the opinion of the said representative of the KGB, the inadequacy of the Soviet legal system does not allow for the application of all due force and resources. Legal provision is not keeping up with the tempo of development of events.

Polish, Russian Ministers Discuss Economic Reform

LD2210161790 Warsaw PAP in English 1535 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 22—Poland's Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Marcin Swiecicki today met with his counterpart from the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Viktor Yaroshenko to discuss economic cooperation in the context of the changes in economic restructuring and the expanded powers of respective republics.

The two also discussed preparations for the signing of an economic and commercial agreement between Poland and the Russian Republic.

Soviet Economists Study Polish Economic Program

LD2110040890 Warsaw PAP in English 1932 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 20—A group of Soviet economists engaged in the process of economic reforms in their country today held a meeting with their Polish colleagues, along with Finance Minister Leszek Balcerowicz, to learn more about Poland's economic recovery program.

The general outlook was that there are no ready blueprints of economic reform which could be applied in the neighbouring country. Asked by newsmen to comment on the meeting, Soviet economist Professor O. Bogomolov said that the Polish model of reform was faultless from the technical point of view and fully comprehensible for economists. "Unfortunately, the Soviet Government does not enjoy such social support as Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki. It cannot propose a 25-30 percent drop in the living standard hoping that the conditions will improve in the future. The application of the Polish model in the USSR would pose a threat of a social outburst. That is why the Soviet authorities are searching for their own path of reform. These will probably by stage-by-stage," the Soviet economist said.

Commentary Views Polish-Belorussian Relations

AU2210102490 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 16 Oct 90 pp 1, 5

[Agnieszka Magdziak-Miszewska commentary: "Understanding Belorussia"]

[Text] It is said that Belorussia is a bastion of Soviet communism. Minister Skubiszewski's visit to Moscow has shown that such an opinion is not far from the truth. This was not only borne out by the outward forms of the visit—there was not only a Soviet flag at the airport, but also one on the automobile in which the minister travelled, and then there was the militia presence when wreaths were laid at Kuropaty.

Belorussia's communist authorities themselves are troubled by the present they received from the Kremlin, that is, the declaration on the republic's sovereignty. It is more than likely that they will want to confine its scope to the nationality issue and settling the issue of the Stalinist past in a manner that is not too painful. In any case, they are not prepared to make any independent decisions. In addition, Belorussia also lacks a strong political opposition that possesses a clear and realistic program. The most serious opposition force, the Belorussian National Front, remains an unofficial organization because it has not succeeded in getting the authorities to accede to its registration. It is true that it has managed to get some of its members into the Supreme Soviet. However, they have no influence on the decisions made by it.

Paradoxically, the Belorussians owe the recent reawakening of national feeling to the Chernobyl tragedy and the discovery of the graves at Kuropaty. The Belorussian National Front has performed enormous services in bringing about the revival of the language, culture, and history. However, the question of national identity continues to remain the key issue. It is a situation that prompts fears and phobias among the present-day Belorussian intelligentsia. This was particularly apparent during Minister Skubiszewski's meeting with representatives of the parliamentary opposition. It was undoubtedly fear of the stronger and more attractive character of Polish culture that led Zenon Poznyak, the chairman of the Belorussian National Front, to talk about the purely Belorussian identity of Bialystok and the anti-Belorussian attitude of the Polish church.

Polish-Belorussian relations are still a long way from providing a model of partnership. The Belorussians have to recover their national and cultural identity first and rediscover their own history. The Poles have to revise their attitude to the Belorussians who are citizens of our state. Their right to develop their own culture and language and cultivate a separate national identity cannot be called into question. This is even more important, because we expect the Belorussian Government to behave toward Poles in the same way. We also should not assume that all the Poles in

Belorussia are Catholics. Then, I think, we see the disappearance of the fear of the return of the Polish "gentry," which prompts today's defensive reaction; a fear that almost exclusively assumes the form of issuing us a list of injustices. Then the fact that the republic of Poland was a state that quickly recognized Belorussian sovereignty will be appreciated.

Skubiszewski Appeals for German Poles To Stay

LD2010130290 Berlin ADN International German 1233 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Bonn (ADN)—Polish Foreign Minister Krisztof Skubiszewski has made an emphatic appeal to the Germans in Poland to remain in the country. He is against an exodus by the Germans from Silesia, Skubiszewski said on Sunday in a Deutsche Welle interview. They are part of the landscape, they live in freedom, and since the last local government elections German-Polish cooperation has also been working at the local level.

"If anything else can be done here then the Polish Government should do it," the minister said. Referring to the relations between Germany and Poland, Skubiszewski called for the construction of a German-Polish community of interests. It should consolidate the political dialogue, the development of good economic relations, and above all the contact between the youngsters of the two countries for whom the tainted past of the two peoples no longer means much. "For us the great German neighbor, great in the economic sense as well as in a different sense, represents a future, an opportunity," the foreign minister said. However, Germany too should recognize the significance of a strong Poland.

Skubiszewski Urges Border Talks With Germany

LD2310053690 Warsaw PAP in English 2320 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 22—Poland presses for prompt negotiations with Bonn over the agreements on borders and basis for mutual contacts. Speaking to the DPA Warsaw correspondent, Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski said that Poland had been promised during the 2 plus 4 conference that the border pact would be signed as shortly as possible after the unification of Germany and regaining of sovereignty.

Poland has already sent the draft treaty to Germany. A German delegation is expected in Warsaw later this month to negotiate both agreements. The latter of them, concerning the basis for mutual relations, may well be ready before end of the year and it is also expected to provide for more extensive trade activity in the border regions.

Referring to the Kohl-Mazowiecki meeting planned for November 8, the Polish side would rather hold it in such a place on the border where it would be possible to "talk for a while in Poland."

The Polish minister called the German intention to lift the visa obligation as of January 1 a piece of good news.

Argentine President Arrives for 3-Day Visit

Jaruzelski Greets Menem at Airport

LD2210112390 Warsaw PAP in English 1102 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 22—President of Argentina Carlos Menem arrived in Poland today for a three-day official visit.

At the Warsaw Airport, the Argentine guest was greeted by Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Mazowiecki, President Hold Talks

LD2310045690 Warsaw PAP in English 1729 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 22—Argentinian President Carlos Menem met in his Warsaw residence today with Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki. The talk concerned the overall relations beween Poland and Argentina, situation in both countries, and possibilities for extension of contacts, economic ones in the first place.

Jaruzelski, Menem Discuss Relations

LD2310050190 Warsaw PAP in English 2230 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 22—Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski met here today with Argentine President Carlos Menem, now on an official visit to Poland. Following a discussion on bilateral relations, the two presidents came out for their further development.

Jaruzelski said that Poland attached great importance to relations with Argentina. He also said that political dialogue was now intensive, cooperation in culure went on well and that Poland took interest in substantially expanding mutually beneficial economic cooperation.

Menem stressed the will of further development and cooperation in all areas of interest to both sides.

Both presidents agreed that similar aspirations and problems carried by socioeconomic reforms in both countries created good ground for useful exchange of experiences and close and fruitful cooperation.

Jaruzelski voiced his conviction that the Argentine president's visit would open up a new chapter in Polish-Argentine relations. Voicing satisfaction over an opportunity to meet Jaruzelski, Menem invited him for a private visit to Argentina after transferring duties of the Polish president.

Roman Leaves for Western European Tour

AU2110170790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1628 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 21/10/1990—On Sunday afternoon, Romanian Premier Petre Roman left for an official visit to Luxembourg, France and Belgium. He is accompanied by Minister of Trade and Tourism Constantin Fota, Minister of Culture Andrei Plesu and Romulus Neagu, secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by other officials.

Comments on Goals of Visit

AU2110185290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1747 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 21/10/1990—There will be three very busy days, stated Prime Minister Petre Roman at the Otopeni Airport before leaving for several West European countries. First of all there will be the signing of the economic and commercial cooperation accord with the European Economic Community, which we wished and which means a first step, maybe the most important one, in bringing Romania closer to the European community in general and to the countries making up the European Economic Community in particular. Then there will be Romania's evening organized by UNESCO in Paris, another extremely important event which should put forth Romania with its traditional and modern cultural assets. There will be the official visit to the NATO headquarters in Brussels, the meeting with the NATO secretary-general and with representatives of NATO countries. We will also meet with Belgian officials, with the prime minister and other officials. I must mention that in Luxembourg where the accord is to be signed we will meet with Luxembourg officials. There will also be an interview granted by the president of the French Republic, Mr. Francois Mitterrand, and finally an interview with the secretary-general of the Council of Europe, Mrs. Catherine Lalumiere. As you can see I have not exaggerated when I said that the next days will be busy, but I am optimistic because we can prove that over the past months extremely interesting things have occurred in Romania, essential for political and economic democratization.

Arrives in Luxembourg

AU2210111690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0916 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Luxembourg (ROMPRES) 22/10/1990—Romania's Prime Minister Petre Roman arrived in Luxembourg Sunday evening for and official visit.

The Romanian guest who heads a governmental delegation including Constantin Fota, minister of trade and tourism, Andrei Plesu, minister of culture, Romulus Neagu, secretary of state at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, and other officials was welcomed by Jacques Poos, Luxembourg's deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and other officials.

In the evening, the Romanian prime minister exchanged views with Jacques Poos on specific aspects and the prospects of cooperation between Romania and Luxembourg. In context, reference was made to general questions regarding Romania's relations with the Common Market in view of the recent acceptance of the EEC Council of Ministers to sign a trade and economic cooperation agreement with Romania.

International developments were also covered, the Gulf crisis in particular.

Economic Cooperation Accord Signed With EEC

AU2210205490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1937 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Luxembourg, ROMPRES, 22/10/990—The European Community and Romania signed an accord of economic and commercial cooperation in Luxembourg on Monday, four months after it had been frozen following the Community's reaction to the June 13-15 events. As is known, the foreign affairs ministers of the Common Market had decided on September 17 to sign that accord considering that the political situation and the human rights observance had improved in Romania.

The signing ceremony was held in the presence of the heads of the diplomatic missions of the twelve and of the president of the EEC Executive Commission, Jacques Delors.

Making reference to the June events, Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman expressed his conviction that they would not recur.

Gianni de Michelis, foreign minister of Italy, which chairs the EC meetings this semester, appreciated that the situation in Romania "still aroused interest". This signing, he went on, "illustrates our lively hope and wish that the process of reforms will rapidly progress in Romania".

The accord stipulates a liberalization of exchanges and makes possible the economic cooperation in all fields between Romania and the European Community.

Officials Meet U.S. Communications Delegation

AU2210211890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2015 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/10/1990—Monday, 22 October, members of the Culture, Art and Mass Media Commission of Romania's Parliament met with a delegation of the U.S. Federal Commission for Communications led by Mr. A. Likes, chairman of the commission.

Opinions were exchanged on the occasion on the role of mass media, of the television in particular.

The guest wanted to learn about possibilities of liberalizing mass media, the measures taken to increase the number of TV channels. In that context, the guests referred to the constitution and the laws underlying the American democratic society.

In their addresses, Mr. I.V. Sandulescu, National Peasant Party senator, and Mr. Claudiu Iordache, National Salvation Front deputy, co-chairmen of the commission set forth at length their parties' point of view on mass media, stressing that they wished an independent and objective television. They also informed about the difficulties confronting Romania after the December 1989 revolution in that respect, and about the mistakes that prejudiced Romania's image in the world. Other senators and deputies who took the floor showed inter alia that Romania's image abroad was due to mostly erroneous information or to lack of understanding of Romanian realities.

Embassy-Level Relations Established With Qatar

AU2210133090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1249 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 22/10/1990—The Governments of Romania and the State of Qatar have decided to establish diplomatic relations at an embassy level as of the date of the joint communique released Monday, October 22, 1990.

The two parties are confident that the establishment of diplomatic relations and the exchange of ambassadors between Romania and the State of Qatar are apt to help developing international cooperation, consolidating peace in the world and the supreme principles of non-alignment.

Romania and the State of Qatar affirm they are ready to build their mutual relationships upon the principles of peaceful coexistence, equality, mutual observance of sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs.

Penalties Proposed for Absent Senators

AU2210205990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1944 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/10/990—On Monday the Senate resumed its plenum proceedings, marked by two premieres. It was for the first time that Alexandru Birladeanu, president of the Senate, proposed penalties for senators absenting themselves without justification from plenum proceedings, to be deduced from their salary.

The second novelty was that the Senate had to stop debates since the present number of votes was not enough to pass certain important articles of the commercial company bill, brought again into discussion in the presence of Minister Adrian Severin, assistant to the prime minister for reform and relationship with the parliament. Plenum proceedings have been postponed to Tuesday [23 October], at nine a.m.

Deputies' Assembly Passes Bill on European Bank

AU2210210490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1918 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/10/1990—The Assembly of Deputies resumed its proceedings in plenum. It passed the bill on the ratification of the accord regarding the creation of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. With several amendments it also endorsed the bill on unemployment and professional reintegration of the unemployed. Also approved were the reports of the commissions of mediation regarding the divergencies between the Assembly of Deputies and the Senate in connection with several articles of the bills on the trade register, the administrative law office and law practice.

PDSR Denies Plans To Merge With FSN

AU2110161090 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 11 Oct 90 p 1

[Communique of the Romanian Social Democratic Party]

[Text] Communique

In connection with the article "Parties in Danger" published by ROMANIA LIBERA on 9 October 1990, the leading committee of the Romanian Social Democratic Party [PSDR] makes the following statement:

1. The PSDR categorically rejects the possibility of a repeat of 1946. 2. Although it is open to dialogue concerning the political resolution of the serious problems faced by Romania today, the PSDR does not plan to deviate from its political line or from the ideals of social democracy. 3. The question of a political merger or alliance with the National Salvation Front [FSN] will not arise at all, particularly since the PSDR is already engaged in negotiations with the opposition political parties and other democratic groups to build an antitotalitarian convention. 4. Staying faithful to its social democratic traditions of liberty and democracy, the PSDR does not plan to become a collaborationist group of an undemocratic movement, no matter what that movement might be.

For the PSDR Leading Committee, Mircea Stanescu, general secretary

Mures Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum Set Up

AU2210173790 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 9 Oct 90 p 3

[Communique on the creation of the Mures Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum]

[Text] Gathered in a joint meeting, the elected representatives of political, nonpolitical, and social organizations and associations of Mures County set up the Mures Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum.

During the meeting, the participants decided to adhere to the democratic desiderata of the proclamation of the Cluj Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum.

We have set up this forum because we are concerned that the ideals of the December revolution are more and more threatened and that totalitarianism is being revived in the economic, social and civic areas; former local cadres of the nomenklatura or of other communist repression bodies have begun to make their appearance in management positions; and those guilty of violations in the former regime and of repression during the revolution have still not been brought before the court. Moreover, obscure forces, vestiges of the former communist regime, are perseveringly spreading the poison of intolerance among many of our fellow beings.

We call for the unity of all democratic forces—political parties, trade union and civic organizations, independent figures, and so forth—within the Mures Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum.

Let us be guided by our common desire to establish genuine democracy in a prosperous and free country.

Let us cultivate love for those close to us and for our families and children.

Let us be united in our thoughts and deeds. Our common cause is just and noble.

May the Lord help us!
1. National Peasants (Christian Democratic) Party
2. National Liberal Party
3. Hungarian Christian Democratic Party of Romania
4. Hungarian Small-Holders Party of Romania
5. Association of Former Political Detainee.
6. 21 December Association
7. League for the Protection of Human Rights

Antigovernment Demonstration Held in Bucharest

AU2110170890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1630 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 21/10/1990—Approximately two thousand people participated on Sunday, 21 October in the commemoration of ten months since the December 1989 revolution organized by the "21 December" Association.

Wreaths were laid, a moment's silence was observed and prayers were said in University Square and Romana Square in the memory of the heroes who died in December.

The commemoration was attended by representatives of various political groups and inhabitants of the capital city.

Throughout the ceremony the participants chanted anticommunist and antigovernmental slogans.

Memo on Rehabilitation of Political Prisoners

AU2110160690 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 11 Oct 90 p 1

[Memorandum addressed to Prosecutor General Gheorghe Robu by the 15 November Association of Brasov]

[Text] Memorandum to the Prosecutor General of Romania:

Perhaps this will be the last complaint of its kind addressed to Romania's prosecutor general. Our efforts to solve the case of the 61 people sentenced on 3 December 1987 in Brasov are known to the relevant people, and some persons or bodies may be upset by our endeavors.

If powers were truly separated in Romania after 22 December 1989, we make a final appeal to justice to shed light now—three years later—once and for all, on the events of 15 November 1987 in Brasov.

We demand the that we, the 61 sentenced and deported Brasov people, should be included in the category of political detainees. With all due responsibility, we declare that only Romanian justice will be responsible for the consequences arising from the efforts undertaken by 15 November Association to elucidate that case.

We do not want a vendetta. We do, however, want a final clarification of our situation, the 61 people of Brasov, and we want a public appraisal of those who contributed to the "success" of the 3 December 1987 legal action against us. Mr. Robu, if you love your country as we love it, if you love the country you were born in more than the chair you are sitting in or the aides you have chosen, we ask you to urgently clarify this case, without minimizing its importance. The date of 15 November has entered our history forever, while Romania has had and will still have many prosecutors general or presidents.

We, the Brasov people of 15 November 1987, who "brushed" with death, are ready to do it again if necessary. If in 1987 we, the 61 people of Brasov, were representative of a whole city and country, here we are again, still ready to declare openly, for the good of this people to whom all of us belong: Nobody will ever be able to silence us but with the truth, or by killing us.

So help us God.

The 15 November Association of Brasov

Free Democrat Leader Protests Rally Cancellation

AU2010173490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1550 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 20/10/1990—Representatives of three political groups (the Free Democratic Party, the National Christian Democratic Party and the Independent Christian and Democratic National Peasant Party with provisional headquarters in Craiova) met in front of the Bucharest City Hall on Saturday.

Mr. Nica Leon, president of the Free Democratic Party, read a protest to Romania's Government considering as illegal the unauthorization of the meeting—announced in the press—scheduled on Saturday, 20 October 1990.

A communique was also drafted which specifies among other things that the disregard of the specific demarches of the three political parties goes beyond the legal framework and the powers of the capital city's mayorship and police.

The communique also shows that until the misunderstanding is solved the march is canceled and warns the government that such practices are illegal and abusive.

National Union Movement Meeting Adopts Statutes

AU2010173390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1554 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 20/10/1990—Representatives of the National Union Movement of Romania, gathered on Friday, debated and adopted the statute of the Provisional National Convention for the administration of the common union patrimony and the rules of the organization and operation of the Administration Council. Likewise, they decided to call a national trade union congress at a date to be set later on.

Opinion Poll Finds Majority Favors Privatization

AU2010191090 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 9 Oct 90 p 1

[Petre Clej article: "Romania Endorses the Reform"]

[Text] In the 29 September-1 October 1990 period, the Romanian Institute for Public Opinion Polls (IRSOP) conducted a poll on the economic reform and its social implications. Indeed, 2,190 people were consulted for this purpose—a representative nationwide cross-segment of Romania's population over the age of 17.

The first conclusion is very encouraging: 67 percent of those questioned are for privatization, compared with only 17 percent who are against privatization, while the remaining 16 percent expressed no opinion. Not only do the majority of Romanians favor privatization, but 49 percent would like to speed its implementation, compared with 38 percent who would like it to proceed at a slower pace.

The Romanians firmly reject egalitarianism! Only 28 percent want the division of the national wealth for privatization purposes to be in equal shares, while 63 percent think this division should be done in a different manner, as a function of various criteria. Indeed, 42 percent of Romanians fully agree with the assessment that the current government has good ideas and initiatives, but that their implementation is hampered by inferior management cadres; 37 percent partially agree with this conclusion; and only 7 percent disagree with it.

The Romanians, however, still lack the courage to invest their money in a private business; 62 percent prefer to wait; while only 20 percent are ready to take the risk now. On the other hand, Romanians would rather work in a private enterprise: They number 47 percent, compared with 41 percent who would rather work in a state enterprise.

Concerning foreign investments of foreign capital, five percent favor the total sale of an enterprise; 57 percent favor the participation of foreign capital; and 22 percent are for both forms. Still, the question is not very clear, because, if we only refer to a single enterprise, the third choice is not possible, and if we talk about the national economy, the first choice is out—otherwise we would sell the whole country....

At the same time, the transition to the market economy is also cause for concern. The main consequence mentioned by those questioned is the increase in social disorder, 29 percent; followed by higher prices, 18 percent; and loss of their jobs, 17 percent. Other reasons for worry are: lack of money, 13 percent; lack of food, seven percent; much more and harder (!!) work, four percent; and so forth. On the other hand, only 23 percent understand why there are price increases for certain goods and items, compared with 61 percent who do not understand it at all.

Romanians are optimistic: 68 percent live in the hope that next year will be better, compared with 22 percent who believe it will be worse. Concerning the situation in three to four years, 70 percent of those examined think that they will fare better, compared with only 12 percent who think that they will fare worse.

Likewise, here is the assessment of the government's activity by those examined: 33 percent see it as good; 49 percent see it as satisfactory; and 21 percent see it as poor. Some 49 percent believe that the government's economic program will be successful; 16 percent think it will fail; and 35 percent have no opinion at all! (The question arises whether they are familiar with the details of this program!)

The last two queries referred to the social climate. Only 23 percent of those questioned believe that the trade unions are currently playing a positive role in the process of economic recovery, compared with 25 percent who believe that the trade unions are playing a rather negative role, while 33 percent believe that they play no role at all. At the same time, three percent consider that the strikes have a basis, 47 percent consider them ungrounded, and 20 percent abstain from stating an opinion.

If one were to draw a general conclusion, one could say that, in general, the Romanians have a favorable opinion about privatization, which they want to see implemented faster, and that they oppose egalitarianism. Is this a victory over communism? In any case, it is a long way from the time when one chanted: "We do not want employers and landlords," or "We do not sell our country." There, however, are few people prepared to take risks in the new economic landscape and the transition to the market economy causes some anxiety, particularly with regard to inflation and unemployment. The government has received pretty good marks, and the Romanians are optimistic, in spite of all current hardships.

We can only congratulate IRSOP for this poll and we advise the government to accelerate the pace of reform. The people have understood the need for reform.

Stanculescu Interviewed on Role of Army

AU2210133690 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 13 Oct 90 p 1

[Interview with National Defense Minister Victor Atanasie Stanculescu by Andrei Alexandru; place and date not given: "The Army Does Not Conduct Politics"]

[Text] In issue No. 242 of the daily ROMANIA LIBERA we can again read about CADA [the Action Committee for the Democratization of the Army]. With some difficulty—due to countless printing errors and the wording of the message, which is typical of a soldier who barely passed fourth grade school exams—I was finally able to make out the text of the CADA message entitled "Who Violates the Military Dignity and Honor." Consequently, I "bombarded" Defense Minister Victor Stanculescu with some man-to-man missiles.

[Alexandru] Mr. Minister, does CADA still exist?

[Stanculescu] I tried to find out from Mr. Bacanu [executive head of daily ROMANIA LIBERA] who was behind the signature "CADA members" on that document, but I have not yet received an answer to that question (11 October—editorial board's note). To solve the problems of military cadres, the Army has institutionalized the "Military Staff Association," whose statutes are available to everyone. It is a system which started operating as of 1 August. I will exclude all those who violate military discipline from Army ranks. So far, we have put into reserve those officers who said that they want to conduct politics; because the Army does not conduct politics, I agreed that they should go into retirement. I want to emphasize that no disciplinary steps were taken against those who belonged to CADA. I know of an instance—maybe there are other ones, too, which I do not know about—when a major from the Boteni garrison, former CADA member, asked for my help as his unit colleagues would not let him come to work because of his activity in that committee. If we want to be a state governed by the rule of law, the law must be obeyed.

[Alexandru] Does the Army currently have a counterintelligence service?

[Stanculescu] We have just established a counterespionage service, comprised of Ministry of National Defense cadres. The entire former counterintelligence system was destroyed and its reorganization was recently completed.

[Alexandru] Why do people reproach you?

[Stanculescu] They object to my refusal to dismiss the four generals brought in by General Militaru after the December revolution.

[Alexandru] What is the reasoning behind this request?

[Stanculescu] They say that these generals did not participate in the revolution and are between 58 and 64 years of age. It is easy to put big stars on military epaulets, but one does not gain experience in just a few years and the Army certainly needs these generals.

[Alexandru] After CADA, we have recently got a "GAMA" [Action Group for the Modernization of the Army]. What is that?

[Stanculescu] Captain First Rank Nicolae Radu, together with other high-ranking officers who were retired after the revolution are behind this GAMA. This group tried in various ways to contact active officers and CADA members. I believe that General Military also has a GAMA connection. Perhaps this group wants to take over the leadership of the Army.

[Alexandru] What is the state of the Army's combat readiness?

[Stanculescu] It is not only good, but very good. In this respect, I would like to invite the press to visit the Negoiesti motorized regiment.

[Alexandru] What are the Romanian Army's relations with the armies of the Western countries?

[Stanculescu] We had direct contacts with London, the French minister sent the military commander of Paris to Bucharest—a five-star general with whom we prepared a cooperation program with the French Army—and we have a proposal for cooperation with the Spanish Navy. There are also other aspects on which I do not wish to comment.

[Alexandru] The relations with Hungary's Ministry of Defense were very friendly after the revolution. What is new in this respect?

[Stanculescu] On 18 October I will have a meeting with the Hungarian minister of defense, whom I proposed a cooperation program designed to enhance trust between our two armies; this program provides for mutual checks to prove that neither side has belligerent intentions.

[Alexandru] What about the Soviet Union?

[Stanculescu] The USSR has been, and probably will continue to be, our primary trading partner. Consequently, we continue to maintain excellent relations on the military plane as well.

[Alexandru] Before the revolution, we sent Romanian officers to study in the USSR. Is this practice still in force?

[Stanculescu] We asked England, France, Italy, Germany, and the USSR to agree to receive our officers for further studies. At the same time, we expressed our readiness to also receive young people from these countries who want to study at our Military Academy.

[Alexandru] What is the state of our military equipment and technology?

[Stanculescu] The combat technology of the Romanian Army has been either manufactured domestically or imported from the Soviet Union, Poland, and Czechoslovakia. In light of the fact that trade exchanges are currently made in hard currency, and in order to avoid dependence—in case of need—on one or two suppliers, we also want to buy equipment from other countries. As a matter of fact, we have already contacted Colonel General Powers, who visited Bucharest and whom we told the following: "If the U.S. Army wants to withdraw certain installations from Europe, please ask us, too, if we are interested in some equipment."

[Alexandru] Thank you Minister, on behalf of the readers of ADEVARUL.

Stanculescu Inaugurates Exhibition on Army Day

AU2210164490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1450 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/10/1990—In the presence of numerous military attaches of various states and of executives in the Armed Forces, Mr. Victor Stanculescu, minister of national defence, inaugurated the exhibition "October 25—Day of the Romanian Armed Forces" at the National Military Museum in the capital city on Monday, October 22.

Displaying photographs, paintings and documentary items, the exhibition presents aspects of the Romanian Armed Forces' participation in the liberation of the national territory.

Trial of Activists, Securitate To Resume

AU2210111490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
0913 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 22/10/1990—Today, 22 October, in Timisoara, the public trial of former party and state activists, of former security and militia staff and collaborators is to be resumed. They are charged with genocide, complicity to or favouring its occurrence, other penal offences perpetrated during the 16-22 December 1989 events in Timisoara. The defendants are accused to have masterminded and led the reprisals, while some of them actually opened fire on demonstrators and continued street fighting even after the dictator's toppling, which caused death and injuries among civilians and the military. During this mammoth trial, started on 2 March, 1990, the Military Section of the Supreme Court of Justice, which conducts the proceedings, has heard more than 450 witnesses, or both damaged and civil parties. The court has also examined the requests for further evidence of the prosecution, defenders and defendants and is yet to rule on them.

Further on Hearings

AU2210210090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1944 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/10/990—On Monday [22 October] the Military Section of the Supreme Court resumed the trial of former members of the Romanian Communist Party leadership, former Securitate and Militia officers as well as collaborators thereof, charged with genocide, being accessories to and participants in the bloody repression of the demonstrators and deleting the traces of the December 16-22 Timisoara genocide.

In order to render judgment as impartial as possible and ascertain each defendant's real guilt, since March 2nd this year the court has heard 450 eye-witnesses, participants in the events.

On Monday, October 22, the trial proceeded with the hearing of two witnesses, the only ones of the summoned who were present. The court decided to issue subpoenas for the [word indistinct] witnesses and fine 500 lei any other such persons.

During the same session the court rejected the request of Defendant Cornel Pacoste for a new medico-legal expertise.

The Timisoara Independent Youth Foundation, who owns the building where the trial takes place, addressed a written statement to the court requesting the sum of 318,320 lei as "compensation for damages brought to and expenses required by the building during the trial".

Documentary on Former Securitate Troops Shown

AU2210211790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
2014 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/10/1990—[The] "Dacia" national polling office, a private institution run by Costin Tuguri, a Romanian revolutionary who was among the first to break into the Romanian Television's Fourth Studio on December 22, 1989, has started a documentary film in eight parts about former troops of Securitate. The film is seen as a contribution to establishing the truth about the participation of those forces in the December revolution.

The first part was shown during a news conference. It includes the opinions of a number of citizens about the role and involvement of the Securitate troops in the revolutionary events end of last year, some of which evidence the contribution of those troops to guarding major economic objectives in the country's large towns.

The show was attended by Doru Viorel Ursu, minister of the interior, and by other executives of the same ministry.

Government 'Not To Interfere' in Press Affairs

AU2110185390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1722 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 21/10/1990—In connection with a number of articles and statements published in several dailies or made on the television over the last few days, the government has released a communique which reiterates the executive's resolve not to interfere in any way in the press' affairs, to recognize and support its legitimacy, as an expression of the critic and ethic consciousness of public opinion.

The government recognizes and observes the press' right to independence and divergent opinion, the communique reads inter alia, to diversity and response, to confrontation of opinions in the achievement and observance to the letter of civic rights and freedoms, of fundamental human rights.

As for the protest of daily "TINERETUL LIBER" and of other publications in connection with the transformation of "PRESA LIBERA" Publishing House, successor of the former "SCINTEIA" Publishing House from a state institution into a private natural person, as an autonomous unit named "National Publishers," this proves, in the opinion of the executive, precisely the option to ensure the independence of mass media in concordance with the exigencies of the market economy. In no way can this decision, which eliminates any possibility of interference of the government, be interpreted as an antidemocratic act. On the contrary it is an act of liberalization. "National Publishers" is an independent juristic person for the actions of which the government cannot be held responsible.

The communique announces the dissolution of the Department for Mass Media and of the office of secretary of state, disapproving of the head of the respective department for conducting talks on questions that do not fall in the sphere of governmental decision-making, which generated ambiguities, giving the false impression that there could be a certain control over the management of the mass media activities. It is worth mentioning that in one of its recent issues daily "TINERETUL LIBER" printed the transcript of the talk its representatives had with the head of the aforementioned department, protesting vehemently against his attitude and uncivilized language.

The governmental communique also announces that a Department for Public Information had been set up that within the Council for Reform, Public Relations and Information. In the government's opinion the new organization is apt to remove all suspicions and prove its wish to inform public opinion about its policy and not to manipulate or control mass media.

On the other hand the communique qualifies as groundless the criticism of the press bill and of the audio visual bill, specifying that according to an understanding reached long ago the government left the drafting of a press law to the Journalists' Society of Romania. On the other hand the audio-visual bill was drafted by a team of experts taking as a model laws in force in West European countries. Assessing that the formulae valid for the old European democracies could be considered as antidemocratic by the young Romanian democracy, the government did not approve the bill. Therefore the text criticised on the television and in the press does not correspond to any document officially released by the government.

Taking note and appreciating the stand expressed by the Romanian Television in connection with its opinion and financial independence, the communique stresses that indeed self-financing gives content to the principles shared by the government and mass media. Consequently, the government will no longer subsidize the television's programmes, the funds meant to cover its budget deficits being used for the social safety programme. We hope that through the quality of its programmes, the Romanian Television, to compete soon with private television stations, will be able to increase the number of its subscribers so as to cover the deficit which on 31.08.1990 was already of 56 million lei.

At the same time we think that the freedom of expression of the television does not allow it to make irreverent assessments of the government or to refuse to relay official communiques, the communique reads in conclusion.

Journalists Protest Decision on TV Subsidies

AU2310121490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0927 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 23/10/1990—The Romanian Journalists' Association (RJA) [AZR] condemns the government's recent decision no longer to subsidise the Romanian Radiotelevision from the budget, reads a communique signed by the Steering Committee of the Romanian Journalists' Association and published by daily ROMANIA LIBERA of October 23.

The RJA considers the decision as either a rash step or a blackmail by which the government intends to subordinate the Romanian radiotelevision even more. Moreover, the communique shows, the RJA does not rule out the possibility of a wide-scale diversion pursuing the embezzlement of the population's money meant for the national company of alternative television "Continental" started by the SOTI, a television company that will be placed under the civil society's control only. The RJA considers that such a decision goes beyond the government's competence and that the parliament is the only body entitled to decide what amount of the tax-payers' money is to be earmarked to the radiotelevision (until the implementation of the market mechanisms).

Population, Housing Census To Be Held in 1992

AU2010175490 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 10 Oct 90 p 1

[Unsigned note: "Population and Housing Census in Romania]

[Text] To better know the number and territorial distribution of the population, of its demographic and socioeconomic structures, and of its housing stock and conditions, the Romanian Government decided to hold a population and housing census throughout the country's territory between 7 and 14 January 1992.

To organize and carry out the census, the government set up a central commission headed by Mr. Ioan Aurel Stoica, minister of state in charge of the quality of life and social security.

Embassy in Kuwait Temporarily Closed

LD2310110190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1026 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Oct (TANJUG)—As a result of the nonexistence of the most basic conditions for life in the SFRY representative office in Kuwait, the Federal Executive Council has decided to temporarily close the SFRY Embassy in this country for technical reasons, and to withdraw from the country the embassy official who has been looking after the protection of the property of the SFRY in the State of Kuwait. It is well known that the Iraqi military authorities cut the electricity and water supply to our representative office in Kuwait more than three weeks ago. This in no way alters the standpoint of Yugoslavia vis-a-vis the State of Kuwait. It maintains regular diplomatic and political contacts with the legitimate government of the State of Kuwait in exile.

Cancelled GDR Contracts Cause 'Great Problems'

LD2010101990 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0810 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 20 Oct (TANJUG)—The disappearance of the German Democratic Republic from the political map of the world has created problems for a number of Yugoslav firms, because of the former state's obligations to foreign partners having ceased. Firms in Yugoslavia have already been informed about the cancellation of 70 contracts for joint ventures with partners in the GDR.

Firms in Yugoslavia have been particularly hard hit by the cancellation of four long-term arrangements in the field of non-ferrous metallurgy, totaling 300 million deutschmarks in value. As of January 1, 1991, all deliveries of aluminium to the German market will cease, which will result in great problems for the Yugoslav aluminum works [words indistinct]. The firm had annually exported 50,000 tons of the metal to the GDR.

Contracts for the export of copper, zinc and titanium dioxide have also petered out, and the discontinuation of the exports will affect the mining and smelting complex at Bor, Trepcca of Titova Mitrovica and Cinkarna of Celje.

Official Comments on Republic's Foreign Links

AU2010210590 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 13-14 Oct 90 p 13

[Report by D. Petkovic: "Foreign Policy Committee: Sway of Republican Diplomacy"]

[Text] Belgrade—The visits by Franjo Tudjman to the United States and by Aleksandar Prlja to Greece where, according to Ivan Ivanov, delegate of Macedonia, he "promised Serbia's help in solving disputed questions between the two countries, including the Macedonian question," were some of the questions posed at the Foreign Policy Committee session.

The question was also asked about a certain Slovene who wants to represent the state of Slovenia in the United States, as well as about the Ljubljana request that Slovenia should independently participate at the CSCE Summit in Paris in November.

One of the questions concerned the reaction of our Foreign Affairs Ministry to the malicious and intensified campaign by the Austrian press against Yugoslavia, and especially to the military exercises in that country near our border so as "to prevent a mass influx of refugees to Austria in case of an imminent civil war in Yugoslavia."

Milivoje Maksic, deputy federal secretary for foreign affairs, informed the delegates that a demarche was sent to Austria concerning the military maneuvers, because it was assessed that they clash with the nature of our good relations and the trust in the stability of the Yugoslav policy which the Austrian representatives express on various occasions. The reply was that the military exercises were "a routine move caused by events outside Austria," or rather that this climate has been created by alarming articles in a part of the Yugoslav press and by statements of responsible personalities who predict a civil war, clashes, and the intervention of the Yugoslav People's Army, and who advocate an international conference on Yugoslavia, and the like. Maksic assessed in this connection that some of our statements perniciously affect Yugoslav interests abroad.

"The Slovene in the United States authorized to represent the interests of Slovenia there" is not our citizen at all; he is an American of Slovene origin who used to live in Austria. Maksic pointed out that the representation of a state abroad is regulated by international law and the Vienna convention, as well as by the Constitution and the laws of this country. The answer was: No self-appointed person is authorized to represent Yugoslavia without a decree by the SFRY Presidency. The representation of a republic abroad is regulated in a similar manner. It is chiefly a matter of private arrangements whose consequences are negligible and do not bind the Yugoslav state.

As regards the visits by republican officials, some are coordinated with the federal organs dealing with foreign policy, but recently there have been visits that have not been coordinated at all, and nobody has even been told about them. The essence lies in the political statements by these people from Yugoslavia.

The Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, Maksic stressed, has issued instructions to our embassies to extend full assistance to the officials and personages from legally registered parties and movements to the extent that they desire it. If they do not desire any assistance, the visits do not bind the Yugoslav state.

Maksic said that foreign countries accept this attitude and respect it, and they stress that they desire Yugoslavia's unity and territorial integrity.

As regards the CSCE, the short answer was: There will be a summit of the heads of states or governments, and Yugoslavia will be represented by Borisav Jovic, president of the SFRY Presidency.

The subject of the talks during Aleksandar Prlja's visit to Greece was the protection of the consular interests of Serbia and the protection of Serbian monuments (Corfu), and the visit also offered an opportunity to explain the present political situation in Serbia and Yugoslavia. The Macedonian question was not specifically discussed, but it was broached from the Greek side. Prlja explained our stand of principle and the question was not further pursued.

Maksic pointed out that it is in the strategic interest of foreign countries to declare for a united Yugoslavia, because such Yugoslavia has been built into the European relations and any change would essentially disturb the currents in Europe and would make this area unstable. Nobody wants this, and the Yugoslavs should want it least of all.

Maksic also spoke about the latest resolution of the European Parliament on Kosovo, and he said that it demands further study, but even the first reaction could be that it is one-sided, tendentious, and that it neglects the essence: that respect for the sovereign rights of all the countries and their territorial integrity is above all other principles. With such an approach, the European Parliament does not make the roads to democratization in Yugoslavia any easier and does not help it join the European currents as soon as possible. The road to the truth leads through patient talks, Milivoje Maksic, deputy federal secretary for foreign affairs, said in conclusion.

Italian Paper Interviews Markovic on Reform

PM2310111290 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 19 Oct 90 p 15

[Interview with Ante Markovic, president of the Federal Executive Council, by Dusan Pilic; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] Belgrade—[passage omitted] "Our economic reform is no rash venture," the prime minister said. "We have followed it step by step, from its conception to its realization. And we do not ignore its difficulties. Yugoslavia is in a transitional phase; the old system is disintegrating, while the new one is still taking shape. In other former communist countries this process is uncontrolled; we, however, are seeking to guide it deliberately, because we are acquainted with its rationale, its internal rules.

"Basically, the old system no longer works. Many of its institutions have collapsed, and there are not yet any new ones to replace them. The market economy is already functioning; what is lagging behind is the constitutional and legal framework, which is no longer in line with the new conditions. Within this vacuum there is scope for numerous tendencies. A debate is under way between those who want Yugoslavia to remain a federation and the advocates of a confederation: It is necessary to understand realistically what these two stances signify."

[Pilic] Which side is your government on, the one for a federation or a confederation?

[Markovic] The government proposes maintaining the present constitution, amended, for a transitional period. Such amendments would ensure that this transitional phase takes place within a constitutional framework. The federation-confederation dilemma has been politicized. It would be desirable to defer a solution until the right answer can be given.

[Pilic] There has recently been renewed talk about the Armed Forces' attitude to the separatist thrusts of some of the republics. A military intervention to stifle these tendencies is feared.

[Markovic] Yugoslavia is in the midst of such profound changes that nobody can delude himself that he can remain outside them. Least of all the Armed Forces: They too must adapt to the change under way in Europe and worldwide. And they are doing so; the military are depoliticizing their institution. It is a long process that will take time.

Furthermore, when the situation becomes difficult in any country people wonder: What will the Armed Forces do? Why should Yugoslavia be an exception?

But these questions are groundless: The Yugoslav Armed Forces will not intervene in this political dispute, partly because they cannot decide anything on their own. The Defense Ministry decides within the government sphere, and the executive is compact; everyone operates within the framework of government policy.

As for the power to use the Armed Forces, it lies exclusively with the Presidency of the republic. Of course, some forces are trying to create the conditions for a military intervention. But that is another matter....

[Pilic] Some generals and other former officers have publicly stated that they will not permit a disintegration of the Yugoslav federation....

[Markovic] This is true. You know, at the moment we are hearing plenty of statements from former ministers, former ambassadors, and so forth.... None of these people have any expertise or authority, and above all they no longer belong to any institutional bodies.

[Pilic] Your reform started well, but now it is encountering spectacular difficulties. Can you explain this to us?

[Markovic] There are difficulties, but they are mainly political, not economic. The reform entrusts the economy to the market and deprives politics of the power to control it. Hence the resistance, which is partly also due to the fact that our system is changing from a single-party to a multiparty system. It is inevitable that in the republics where democratic elections have not yet taken place (Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Macedonia—LA REPUBBLICA editor's note) the local political authorities are insisting on retaining the management of the economy.

I would add that it is not only the politicians who are resisting: Social groups are also opposing the economic liberalization.

[Pilic] How is this resistance to be overcome?

[Markovic] By moving ahead. Already 92 percent of prices have been derestricted, as have over 90 percent of imports: Our market is now integrated with that of Europe. We are working to introduce a capital market, a banking system, and a monetary policy in line with the reform. The labor market will come last.

[Pilic] But inflation is becoming threatening again.

[Markovic] No, the rate of increase in inflation will not exceed 1 percent before the end of the year. The control of pay and consumption is yielding results. The measures introduced recently to facilitate the purchase of over 20 food products and other essential products are helping to combat price hikes. In other words, we are fully in control of all the macroeconomic factors. The prospects of success for the reform are much better than before.

[Pilic] You are optimistic, and say you are sure of success. But the resistance that you mentioned earlier, or the deterioration of the political situation could destroy the reform.... Or are its results irreversible?

[Markovic] Our critics are unable to put forward an alternative program or to guarantee results comparable to those that we have achieved. We have reserves totaling over $10 billion, we have a convertible currency: Who else can boast such results?

[Pilic] The Slovenes, but also exporters in other Yugoslav republics, argue that the dinar is valued too highly with respect to the German mark—the currency to which it is tied—and that this restrict exports.

[Markovic] Why should we change the dinar rate if our balance of payments is so healthy?

[Pilic] What is happening with the program to privatize so-called "social property"?

[Markovic] It is encountering difficulties. This is the toughest stumbling block in the entire reform: It is not easy to privatize when over 90 percent of property is "social property." This process will take longer than we envisaged.

[Pilic] So, Mr. Markovic, are you sure that Yugoslavia will remain united and that the reform will be successful?

[Markovic] I am profoundly convinced that Yugoslavia will survive and that the reform will succeed, like everything that we have done hitherto.

[Pilic] You are to meet with [Italian Prime Minister] Andreotti today. Is there any special reason for this meeting?

[Markovic] No, it is a "working meeting" decided on last year in Umago. Today in Verona we will examine the introduction of a number of programs that we have agreed on. Moreover, Italy holds the duty presidency of the EEC, so we have many things to discuss. Our trade with Italy has increased by 37 percent in 1990.... I am sure that my meeting with Andreotti will help to further improve our already excellent relations.

Reportage on Markovic's Visit to Italy

WA2210190990

For reportage on the visit by Premier Ante Markovic and the Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Budimir Loncar to Italy, including reports on their talks with Italian Premier Gulio Andreotti and the Minister of Foreign Affairs Gianni de Michelis, please see the Italy section of the 22 October West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Drnovsek Answers Questions on Putsch, Dialogue

AU2210213390 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 19 Oct 90 p 3

[Report by D. Draskovic: "Janez Drnovsek: A State Does Not Fall Apart Easily"]

[Text] Ljubljana—At the news conference that Janez Drnovsek held for domestic and foreign journalists yesterday, the question that inevitably appeared first was why he left the assembly session [in Belgrade on 17 October]. Drnovsek replied that he left the session because he did not agree with the stands of certain delegations and because he knew that the assembly session would not be concluded. He then stressed that he will attend the assembly session today [19 October].

Drnovsek repeated his positions on, as he put it, the negative pushing of the rigid federal concept, which he opposed at the latest presidency sessions. It would be good if the assembly accepted both concepts for discussion today, but it is important that the assembly confirms the election of Stipe Mesic to the SFRY Presidency today. In the opposite case, divisions would increase, and at the same time the presidency would lose its legitimacy, and it all would constitute a further erosion of state organs.

Foreign journalists were particularly interested in the reply about a possible "military coup" as written about by Zagreb DANAS. Drnovsek replied that this would be a risky option, and the worst consequences would be borne precisely by the one who would have decided to take it, and he said that everything should be resolved by bringing positions closer together, or rather through dialogue. Any justification for a military coup by asserting that the constitutionality and legality have been violated would be unacceptable. The Constitution is being violated all over Yugoslavia, more here and less there, loudly in some places and quietly in others. Reminded directly that "he did not reply to the question whether the possibility of a putsch exists," Drnovsek said that the answer can be identical with the answer to the question whether there will be an earthquake.

Even in the worst instance, an opportunity for a dialogue must exist and such a dialogue must begin at once between Serbia and Slovenia, and Croatia and Serbia. It is obvious that the options of a federation and a confederation exist, but a model and a position to guarantee the sovereignty of the peoples or the republics must be found through dialogue. After that, everything will be better and easier.

A state does not easily fall apart, Drnovsek stressed. Asked whether Yugoslavia needs an international peace force, Drnovsek replied that it does not, because an opportunity for dialogue exists.

Asked to comment in more detail about his recent statement on Slovene radio that "he hopes that Ante Markovic will stay a few more months," Drnovsek replied that he made this statement bearing in mind the economic program and the political trends in the country.

Correctly About Jovic

Even the most persistent people at yesterday's news conference did not succeed in drawing out of Drnovsek any statement about what would make him quarrel with Jovic, present president of the SFRY Presidency. Drnovsek stressed that Jovic's stands are supported by a part of the state and one should not forget that both he and I hold the stands of our constituency, and his stands are comprehensible if looked at from this angle.

"Jovic's proposal for a federal system, or rather a firm federation, makes many people in Yugoslavia think about a disintegration of Yugoslavia."

Asked why he should not present the confederal plan for Yugoslavia, while Jovic presented the federal plan, Drnovsek replied: "I think that this would lead to an extreme confrontation, and I also do not want to be a spokesman for a confederation which all the republics must accept, in the sense of guaranteeing the sovereignty of the republics or nations, which must be reached through a dialogue."

Presidency Discusses Country's Future Setup

AU2110191090 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 17 Oct 90 p 1

[TANJUG report: "About the Future Organization of the Country"]

[Text] Belgrade—At its session chaired by Dr. Borisav Jovic, the SFRY Presidency today discussed the draft concept of the future organization of Yugoslavia. The session was also attended by the presidents of the presidencies of the republics and autonomous provinces and the president of the Federal Executive Council.

The SFRY Presidency—whose session was still going on at the time this statement was issued—will inform the SFRY Assembly and the public about the conclusions of the session tomorrow.

Mesic Opposes 'Retailoring' of Republic Borders

LD2010171790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1501 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Skopje, 20 Oct (TANJUG)—Yugoslav State Presidency Vice-President Stjepan Mesic has stated in an interview published in the Skopje daily NOVA MAKEDONIJA today that the borders of the Yugoslav republics and provinces must be guaranteed, because their alteration would have catastrophic consequences for Yugoslavia.

Mesic, representative of the Republic of Croatia in the Federal State Presidency, set out in that context that his republic would take no part in any retailoring of the borders and would not permit anyone to retailor them.

Commenting on the country's future order, Mesic said that if a confederation was good as a model for Europe it would be good also for the Balkan nations. He observed that a model of a federation clearly suited best the Republic of Serbia, and, in that context, said that Serbia had in actual fact already withdrawn from the existing federation, having adopted a new constitution under which it has a president of the republic and a commander of the armed forces. Mesic expressed the opinion that Serbia was completely an independent state under its new constitution.

Mesic said that the Yugoslav State Presidency practically no longer functioned.

DELO Commentary Views Federal Chamber Session

AU2010174990 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 18 Oct 90 p 1

["Topic of the Day" commentary by Danilo Slivnik: "Rebellion of Those Who Always Got Outvoted..."]

[Text] The session of the SFRY Assembly Federal Chamber held yesterday did not promise much from the very beginning: It was convened in a hurry, lacked real substance, and, above all, it was not clear on whose behalf Borisav Jovic would address it. What was happening at the afternoon part of the session, however, was a rebellion of those who always got outvoted, that is, those who have been caught in the trap of "unitarian proceedings" for more than two years.

The Federal Assembly did not fall apart yesterday, but it became clear that it is very close to a complete blockade and that essentially all it can be is the place where a new interethnic agreement in the country is concluded—an agreement that some people have been proposing for some time already. What came to the surface during the debate that lasted several hours and dealt with the agenda of the Federal Chamber session were not only large essential and conceptual differences between individual delegations (republics), but also an extremely manipulative background to which, in order to attain its aims, Milosevic's Serbia has for some time been resorting in the Federal Presidency, as well as, (more recently) in the leadership of the Federal Assembly.

The following is to be said, however, about the president of the Presidency, Borisav Jovic: His behavior in the Federal Assembly yesterday evening proves not only that he is not the person who would advocate a rational solution to the Yugoslav crisis, but also that he is very thick-skinned. In an absolutely shameless manner, he listened to all reproaches that delegates to the Federal Chamber heaped at him and just as calmly he suffered all those tiny but still obvious manipulations, with the help of which Chamber President Bogdana Glumac-Levakov tried to save him from disaster....

Federal Government TV Channel To Begin 23 Oct

LD2110162190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1331 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 21 Oct (TANJUG)—Jutel, a new Yugoslav TV channel launched by the federal government, will broadcast its first experimental programme at 10 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23, the Belgrade daily VECERNJE NOVOSTI writes today.

The idea behind the new TV channel, which rallies excellent professionals, is to offer to the Yugoslav viewer an objective view of the events in the country and abroad, in the existing conditions of a true media war among the mass media which predominantly sport the colours of their own republics.

During the experimental stage, Jutel will broadcast only one hour a day—a 30-minute review of the most important events of the day and another 30 minutes of political talk shows, Information Programme Editor Goran Milic says.

In the first week, Jutel has slated an interview with Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and talks with party leaders countrywide in anticipation of the first multiparty elections in post-war Yugoslavia, says Milic. So far, 20 party leaders have accepted the invitation to present their ideas for resolving the Yugoslav crisis.

Unfortunately, Milic said, for the time being the programme will not be available to all Yugoslav viewers, as it will be broadcast on Sarajevo Television Channel 2 and it is not yet known which, if any, of the other Yugoslav TV networks plan to pick it up. However, in two weeks' time Jutel is moving to Belgrade and in mid-1991 its programmes will be broadcast via satellite and accessible to viewers outside Yugoslavia too.

Jutel has been founded by Radio Yugoslavia, but there are plans for it to become a joint-stock company very soon.

Karadjordjevic Wants To Be Constitutional King

AU2010211790 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 15 Oct 90 p 4

[Interview with Aleksandar Karadjordjevic "specially for BORBA" by Milan P. Popovic: "A Democratic Denouement Only Through Talks"]

[Excerpt] London—Aleksandar Karadjordjevic, Yugoslav crown prince, son of King Petar II, who was prevented from returning to the country after the communists assumed power, wishes to come to Yugoslavia.

In reply to the question, would he assume the place and the duties of a monarch, he said: It is pleasant to hear that there exist political forces that ask for a restoration of the monarchy and for the king to come to the country.

I wish to be king in a constitutional monarchy, but I think that much remains to be done in this direction, the monarch of a nonexistent monarchy added. Asked whether he would know how to help find a way out of the crisis which is exhausting Yugoslavia, and whether he believes that the political ways have not been exhausted yet, he answered:

It is well known that I believe in respect for human rights. I stand for the respect of all religions, for the respect of all nationalities, for considering their customs, and for their right to the language which they speak. Adhering to these principles and proceeding from the tradition we used to have, I believe I would fit the role of a modern constitutional monarch and could rank my country among the six remaining European monarchies, which include Sweden and Norway. Kingdoms exist in Europe and they are successful. I believe that their experience could be used. I consider that a king could help the country. Above all, I would carefully listen to everybody, and this would contribute to the development of democracy. A king would be a friend of all, he would above all listen to everybody. He would tour the entire country. The tasks are great, but they are manageable.

[Popovic] You know that the country is being corroded by the clash of its nations; where in your opinion should one search for a way out of these troubles?

[Karadjordjevic] The only way to get out of this complex situation is through a democratic denouement. One should talk and talk again. One should come together. Blood must not be shed, there must be no revenge. There must be no clash. If we do not succeed in this, if we do not show to the world that we are capable of talking, everybody in this region will be a loser. Everyone will lose interest in our part of the world, and this is tragic. We live in a small part of the Balkans and we deserve a future. Our children especially deserve better. This can be ensured if democracy is developed, negotiating and beginning at once, on the spot. Admitting private enterprise, we can attract the necessary investment to our territory. "Management" should be trained, and the direly necessary expert people should come to the fore.

[Popovic] In your opinion, would, for instance, the Croats accept a "Serbian king?"

[Karadjordjevic] I am in regular contacts both with the Croats and the Slovenes and what I hear is positive, Aleksandar Karadjordjevic said. [passage omitted]

Serbian Interior Minister Views Internal Security

LD2310084190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2206 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Valjevo, 22 Oct (TANJUG)—The unified security system in Yugoslavia is seriously jeopardized. Separatistic aspirations of Slovenia and Croatia are the primary causes. This was stressed by Serbian Internal Affairs Secretary Radmilo Bogdanovic in Valjevska Kamenica, where he spoke about the current political and security situation in Serbia and Yugoslavia.

He noted that Kosovo has been kept as a powder keg, ready to explode and create even greater problems in Serbia. The behaviour of "the so-called democratic Tudjman government in Croatia, which wiped out the Serbian nation in that republic from the Croatian Constitution by stipulating that Croatia is the state of the Croatian nation and other peoples," adds further instability to the already unstable security situation. "All this has justifiably upset the Serbian nation in that republic."

In their open separatistic drive, the authorities in Slovenia do not adhere even to the supreme laws of the country. Albanian nationalists and separatists have not yet given up the goal of Kosovo becoming a republic, Bogdanovic stressed, and drew attention to Muslim nationalism, which is on the rise in southern Serbia. All this, he underscored, exacerbates additionally the political situation in Serbia and Yugoslavia, and hampers a serious and peaceful implementation of the economic reform.

Disagreements in Serbian Socialist Party Viewed

AU2010192190 Zagreb VECERNJI LIST in Serbo-Croatian 16 Oct 90 p 4

[Report by the Croatian News Agency, HINA: "Disagreements in the Leadership of the Socialist Party of Serbia"]

[Text] Belgrade—A well-known professor of philosophy and member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences of Arts, Mihajlo Markovic, a man who conflicted with the regime for years and then during the past several months offered his service to Slobodan Milosevic and his new-old Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS], has abandoned politics and left for the United States to find his peace in continuing his career as a professor.

His exit from the political scene is a sign of serious disagreements in the SPS leadership. The founding congress of the SPS was expected to be an occasion to severe relations with all compromised personalities of the former League of Communists of Serbia, people like Rados Smiljkovic, Radmila Andjelkovic. The problem was not solved, however, at the congress and is more and more burdensome on the party's leadership. Being under the pressure of an offensive opposition, above all Vuk Draskovic's Serbian Renewal Movement, and confronted with the challenge of the Reform Forces Alliance of Ante Markovic who is relying on democratic and liberal political groupings in Serbia and gathering an increasing number of supporters, the SPS is considering the kind of personalities it can put up at the elections.

Mihajlo Markovic's departure is probably one of the consequences of the disagreements and disputes about cadres within the leadership. This can also be interpreted as an escape from a sinking ship, as well as Academician Markovic's attempt to save at least a part of his reputation.

Seselji To Run for Serbian President

AU2110133590 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 16 Oct 90 p 12

["D.T."-signed report: "Seselj Will Be Nominated"]

[Text] Valjevo—Aleksandar Stefanovic, vice president of the Serbian Chetnik Movement, has announced at a press conference that Vojislav Seselj, of Valjevo, will be nominated a candidate for the president of the Republic of Serbia. Currently Seselj is serving a prison sentence, and will not "manage" to be nominated as a candidate for a deputy.

Democratic Union of Bulgarians Founded in Nis

LD2010170290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1519 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Nis, 20 Oct (TANJUG)—The Democratic Union of Bulgarians in Yugoslavia was founded in Nis, Republic of Serbia, today, as a "voluntary, independent, democratic, humane, cultural and political organization."

The union will rally ethnic Bulgarians, but will be open also to members of the other nationalities in Yugoslavia.

The union, as set out at its founding assembly today, will strictly respect the Constitution and territorial integrity of Yugoslavia and work for a Yugoslavia as a modern and democratic federation.

The Democratic Union of Bulgarians in Yugoslavia, as underscored today, will not admit to its ranks the ethnic Bulgarians who have nationalist, chauvinist and separatist leanings and will decisively fight against those negative phenomena.

Slovene President Speaks on Confederation

LD2010230490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1924 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Koper, 20 Oct (TANJUG)—The secession of Slovenia is not the first political objective of this republic of Yugoslavia—Slovene President Milan Kucan stated today.

Kucan, addressing military reservists in the Slovene Adriatic resort town of Koper, said that the republic's first political goal was a system to ensure all nations their independent positions within Yugoslavia. In his view, a confederation was the right framework for such a system.

Speaking about the current situation in Yugoslavia torn by inter-ethnic conflicts, Kucan was confident that the political solution to the crisis have not been exhausted by far.

In referring to the increasingly frequent warnings about the possible straightening out of the crisis by non-democratic means, Kucan said that all should be done to preclude such an outcome. "Everything else is more acceptable than bloodshed, violence and civil war," said he.

Kucan Interviewed on Presidency's Work

AU2210201890 Sarajevo OSLOBODJENJE in Serbo-Croatian 14 Oct 90 p 4

[Report on interview with Milan Kucan, president of the Presidency of the Republic of Slovenia, by Zoran Odic: place and date not given: "A Yugoslav Commonwealth Is a Possibility"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Odic] All well-intended people in our country are very worried about the increasingly vociferous demands by the leaders of political parties in Slovenia for the soonest possible secession of the republic. Could you comment on this and how realistic are these demands?

[Kucan] They are part of our reality today. The Slovene political scene, Slovene public opinion, and the decisions of the highest organs show that the main strategic aim of Slovenia is to achieve its political and economic sovereignty. This will be achieved with the adoption of the new constitution. The adoption procedure is already under way. The adoption of the constitution will be the end of this stage in the Slovene political life. This will also constitute the foundation on the basis of which the citizens of Slovenia will decide on what kind of relations they want to have with other Yugoslav peoples and republics. [passage omitted]

[Odic] Yugoslavia, and Slovenia along with it, are facing a denouement of the crisis. Two models have been offered to resolve the crisis, a federal and a confederal model. It is obvious that there was much disagreement during the discussion about this issue at a recent session of the SFRY Presidency [10 October]. What really happened at that session?

[Kucan] This session was not particularly dramatic nor unusual for those who have been following political events in our country. It was only unusual in the sense that the agenda included a discussion about both models which the SFRY Presidency promised to the SFRY Assembly and the public as possible models of a democratic way of surmounting the Yugoslav crisis. Unfortunately, the discussion revealed the attempts to adopt the political practice of completely relativizing relations by not respecting the stands that were adopted, nor the stands which the SFRY Presidency used to conduct its activities. In a recent interview for the Yugoslav public, Dr. Borisav Jovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, explained his concept of resolving Yugoslavia's constitutional crisis, which the SFRY Presidency accepted. This concept was forwarded to the SFRY Assembly despite the fact that Croatia and Slovenia objected to it. This document contains suppositions on which the concept is based. These suppositions emanate from the talks which the SFRY Presidency held in June of this year in all the republics. Four of these suppositions are very important. First, that the existing constitution cannot be the constitutional framework for resolving the constitutional crisis, even if it were amended, but later it is stated that the constitution must be respected. Second, it is stated that Yugoslavia is at the stage of concluding a new, as the document says, historic agreement about the future cohabitation of the Yugoslav peoples. Third, that the subjects in the negotiations are sovereign republics. And fourth, that the main supposition in the search for an agreement is the right of the people to self-determination.

The document also states that any choice is possible, legitimate, and equal, except those that would preserve the existing situation with force or would impose a new situation through the use of force. On this basis it was agreed that two concepts—the federal and the confederal concepts—of how to organize internal relations in Yugoslavia be drafted. A working group was set up to draft a federal model. The SFRY Presidency proposed that Slovenia and Croatia be put in charge of drafting a confederal model.

These two models are completely different, as was demonstrated last Wednesday when the SFRY Presidency discussed them. Although they do have some points in common, they cannot be reconciled. They proceed from completely different understandings of the character of the Yugoslav federation, its voluntary nature, and the equality, independence, and sovereignty of the peoples and republics.

Because of that, reconciliation is impossible. What is possible is to choose between the two, to choose on the basis of the clearly defined vital interests of all peoples and the appraisal of optimal possibilities for these interests to be achieved.

What was unexpected at the Presidency's session was that in his closing speech the president proposed that the Presidency supplement "his" model of the federation and forward it to the SFRY Assembly and that Slovenia and Croatia decide on what they want to do with their model, to decide whether they want to improve it or not. This was the crux of the matter, because both models were ordered by the Presidency. The Presidency has the right to chose one or the other, but has no right, after all the activities it undertook and assumptions it adopted, to propose a model of the denouement of the Yugoslav crisis which it itself supports. The Presidency is a federal organ. It works according to the Constitution and does not have the right to do that; it does not have the right to conclude that the offered model of a federation is a model that will improve and modernize Yugoslavia, and that the confederal model will break up Yugoslavia. [passage omitted]

[Odic] What is the essence of Slovenia's endeavors for a confederation?

[Kucan] In the past, a confederation always used to be a transitional model leading toward either secession or new integration. Our model of a confederation is in fact about that. A confederation is under all conditions the minimum guarantee for a new process of integration of Yugoslav peoples, perhaps even a new federation, if real interests existed for it. We will wait for a solution until the new constitution of Slovenia is adopted. After that we will have to deal with the transitional period during which attitudes toward the new constitutional set up in Slovenia will have to be sorted out and relations with other parts of the country regulated. [passage omitted]

[Odic] If one of the "black" alternatives takes place, that is if Slovenia, as you say, was kicked out of the Yugoslav community, how will it survive? Recently, you quoted an expert assessment that in the first six months of independence Slovenia would need a billion dollars in order to survive.

[Kucan] Looking at the amount of money which Slovenia would need, I am afraid that this assessment made by an institute is too low. We certainly cannot and do not want to break our relations with the Yugoslav market overnight, although I think that such attempts would be made. I am not referring to Slovene enterprises, but to the other side. If this happens, one will have to think about the effects on the flow of goods, services, capital, and labor. It is interesting that we are not the only ones who are thinking about our fate in case this happens. Others are thinking about it, too, and are continuously talking about how badly we would fare. I believe that this period would be difficult for us, that it would be difficult for everybody. This difficult period would not be short, but would have its bright side, if I may say so. [passage omitted]

Muslims Support Albanians at Kosovo Gathering

AU2010172890 Skopje FLAKA E VELLAZERIMIT in Albanian 17 Oct 90 pp 4-5

[Report by Blerim Reka, Emin Azemi: "Elections for the Kosovo Democratic Alliance (DSK) Assembly in Their Concluding Stages"]

[Excerpts] Pristina, 16 Oct—The start of this week in Kosovo was marked by the tragic epilogue of the first conference of the Serbian Socialist Party in Kosovo. Different versions of Rahman Morina's death are circulating in the streets, one of which does not even rule out the possibility of his death being a result of a conflict within the party. There are also different interpretations passing from mouth to mouth about the "sudden disappearance from the public eye" of the leading figure in Serbian politics in Kosovo, Momcilo Trajkovic, who is said to be undergoing treatment somewhere outside Kosovo. [passage omitted]

Otherwise, besides plebiscitary support for the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, political life in Kosovo has been marked by the elections in the DSK in many communes. After successful elections in the Djakovica DSK branch and the voting for delegates, a 101-member assembly for this branch was formed. This commune also elected 45 delegates for the DSK Assembly and at the same time elected a new 9-member DSK Presidium for Djakovica. Prof. Dr. Bardhyl Caushi was elected chairman; Ismet Bardhoshi, deputy chairman; and Dode Lleshi, secretary. In Pec too, the delegates of the Electoral Assembly of the DSK branch elected new presidium members. Prof. Ymer Muhaxheri was elected chairman, and Niman Alimusa, secretary. The assembly also elected 27 branch delegates for the Constitutive Assembly of the DSK. [passage omitted]

Albanians Always Helped the Muslims

The Party of Democratic Action [SDA] considers that the problem of Kosovo, which has now distressed the country for 10 years, can only be solved by democratic means and through talks, the operation of parties and organs, and not in any way, as is being done, with the use of violence, force, and truncheons, etc. During the war and at various times, the Albanians supported and helped the Muslims when the Chetnik danger threatened them. They gave them shelter, and bread to those who needed it. This was stressed by speakers at the SDA's electoral assembly for Kosovo, which was held in the open air on Sunday [14 Oct] in the presence of about 8,000 people, mainly Muslims, but also including Albanians. The gathering was held in the presence of an extremely large number of militiamen, who came with many motor vehicles, armored cars, etc., because the local Serbian and Montenegrin population had threatened that they would not allow the gathering to be held in revolutionary Vitomirica.

Dr. Niman Balic stressed in his political address that people are being killed, beaten, and poisoned, houses are being raided, thousands and thousands of workers are being dismissed, and political rights and other freedoms are being truncated, all in the name of the "rule of law." Meanwhile, Sylejman Uglanin, SDA Presidium member, said that this party supports only a peaceful solution to the Kosovo problem, because it has been seen that the use of force has not succeeded in stabilizing the situation, but only in exacerbating it. The Muslim people, whom nobody can manipulate, will in an organized way and by joining political parties, commit themselves to the defense of their own rights and interests, will maintain a clear standpoint, and will respect the support which the Albanians have given to the Muslim people at various periods. Many other speakers also stress that everything in Kosovo which violates freedoms, labor rights, the inviolability of the personality, etc., must stop. They also adopted the stand of not buying Belgrade newspapers, and not watching Belgrade Television, or even paying the license fee.

In its declaration, the gathering supported the document "With Peace Against Violence," as well as various other standpoints of the Kosovo Alternative regarding the solution of the Kosovo question in a democratic way. The gathering elected the SDA Presidium for Kosovo, with Dr. Niman Balic as its chairman. [passage omitted]

Vojvodina League of Communists Holds Last Session

LD2010142990 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1109 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Novi Sad, 20 Oct (TANJUG)—The League of Communists of the Yugoslav Province of Vojvodina (LCV) today formally ceased to exist, with the last session of the LCV provincial committee.

The session, attended by barely one-half of the LCV provincial committee membership, decided that the LCV organs should cease function.

Last year was the most dynamic in terms of developments and it will remain written in the annals that the communists of Vojvodina successfully initiated a process of wide democratization of society so-far, president of Vojvodina's communists Nedeljko Sipovac said. Sipovac invited the membership to turn to the future and put an end to disputes about the past.

The session immediately preceded today's first conference of the Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS] for Vojvodina, which is expected to be attended by 500 delegates and to elect the provincial SPS board.

Decides To End League Work

LD2010105990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0941 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Novi Sad, 20 Oct (TANJUG)—With the final session of the Provincial Committee of the Vojvodina League of Communists [LC], the Communist Party in this province today formally ceased to exist.

At today's meeting, which was attended by barely half the members of the provincial party leadership, a decision was adopted on the cessation of the work of the organs of the Vojvodina LC, the Provincial Committee, and Statutary and Supervisory Commissions.

Last year, the present president of the Vojvodina Communists, Nedeljko Slipovac, said, was most dynamic in its events, and it will remain recorded that the communists of Vojvodina successfully set in motion the process of broad democratization in society. He called on members to turn to the future and to cease debates about what was already past.

This session was held immediately prior to the beginning of the first conference of the organization of the Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS] for Vojvodina, which some 500 delegates are expected to attend and which will elect the provincial committee of the SPS for Vojvodina.

SPS for Vojvodina Begins Conference in Novi Sad

LD2010124290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1049 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Novi Sad, 20 Oct (TANJUG): The first conference of the organization of the Socialist Party of Serbia [Socijalisticka Partija Srbije—SPS] for Vojvodina began its work in Novi Sad today.

Taking part in the work of the conference are about 500 delegates who were elected at electoral conferences of the SPS in Vojvodina's municipalities, and it is expected that before the end of the day the election of the provincial committee of the SPS will be carried out.

The program of the party in Vojvodina will be implemented creatively, in the interests of all citizens, nations, and nationalities living here, and will be tailored to the specificalities of this region, said Dr Jovan Babovic in his introductory speech. It is expected that this meeting will also be addressed today by SPS Vice President Dr. Bogdan Trifunovic.

Macedonian on Expectations of Balkan Meeting

LD2110163890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1523 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Skopje, 21 Oct (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Presidency today said it expected that the upcoming Tirana meeting of the Balkan foreign ministers would be characterized by an open dialogue and the readiness of all delegations to seek solutions to all issues, above all the issue of national minorities.

The statement released by the Republic of Macedonia Presidency recalled that the issue of national minorities was regulated by the CSCE (Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe) and that it should, as a positive achievement of European security, be given its proper place in inter-Balkan relations, too.

The statement set out that the solution of the issue of national minorities would contribute to the development of democratic processes in Balkan countries, and it called for a consistent exercise of the rights and freedoms of national minorities.

The Republic of Macedonia Presidency urged Yugoslavia to raise the issue of the position of the Macedonian national minorities in Bulgaria, Greece and Albania at the Tirana meeting.

The Presidency urged a categorical condemnation of the limitation of the rights of minorities to organize themselves politically and participate in political affairs of the discrimination against national minorities. Repressive measures against them and various other bans, especially when no separatist tendencies and attempts to alter borders are involved. [sentence as received]

Montenegrin Communists Adopt Election Program

LD2110041390 Belgrade TANJUG in English
2117 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Titograd, 20 Oct (TANJUG)—The Communists of the Yugoslav Republic of Montenegro in the today adopted election program for the December multi-party elections decided on Yugoslavia as a federation, pointing out that it can survive and successfully function only as such.

However, the Montenegrin Communists noted down in the election program, adopted at today's congress, that the democratically established wish of any people to leave Yugoslavia cannot be thwarted. The possibility of separating from Yugoslavia, it was pointed out, must be a process in which the complex set of problems will be resolved in a peaceful and sensible way, such as the internal and external borders.

Within such options, according to the Montenegrin Communists, the Republic remains a sovereign state which independently decides on forms of cooperation and linking with others.

At the political level, the Montenegrin Communists promised the voters a legal state and respect of human rights and on the economic level, support of entrepreneurship.

The Communists of Montenegro informed all other republics and provinces that they no longer agree to the practice under which the most important economic decision are taken at the federal level only as a result of the balancing of political powers and economic interests. The party believes that the consequences of such a practice have already resulted in the economic and social exhaustion of the republic.